





## Riots: Courts begin to deal with those accused; politicians begin to seek a solution

## Two jailed in Brixton first 100

Only two people have received jail sentences in the first 100 cases arising out of the first Brixton riots in April. A black man, 18, received 18 months in jail for looting and a white man, 48, six months for assault on the police. Two white and one black youths were sentenced to three months in detention centre.

There were 63 black people on trial, 35 whites, 2 Mediterranean and one Asian. Fifteen of those dealt with by the court were under the age of 16. At July 8 253 cases were tried, making 354 arrests in all of whom 98 were white and 256 black.

Some of the more serious cases have yet to be heard, in the list below B is black, W white, A Asian, M Mediterranean, con dis is conditional discharge and unless otherwise indicated the sums represent the total of fines imposed. Burglary normally looting.

Theft (23 cases)

Male, 20, b: guilty plea, £100.

Male, 28, b: guilty plea, £100.

Male, 20, b: guilty plea, £75.

Male, 15, b: guilty plea, 12 hours d.c.

Male, 16, w: cautioned.

Male, 12, b: 12 hours community service.

Male, 14, A: 12 hours community service.

Male, 11, b: cautioned.

Male, 16, b: guilty plea, £20.

Male, 27, w: guilty plea, £20.

Male, 38, b: guilty plea, 3 months imp. sus. 1 year.

Male, 17, w: 12 months probation.

Male, 16, w: con. dis. 12 months.

Female, 32, b: 12 months con. dis.

Female, 20, w: fined £50.

Male, 17, b: guilty plea, 3 months det. cen.

Male, 22, b: not guilty plea, £50.

Male, 13, b: not guilty plea, absolute discharge.

Female, 16, b: not guilty plea, 12 months con. dis. Pay £25 costs.

Male, 23, b: guilty plea, £75.

Male, 12, b: 12 months con. dis.

Offensive weapon (7 cases)

Male, 23, b: not guilty plea, £50.

Male, 28, b: B.O. £200 for 12 months.

Male, 13, w: fined £25.

Male, 19, b: not guilty plea, found not guilty.

Female, 22, w: guilty plea, 12 months con. dis.

Male, 24, b: guilty plea, £30.

Male, 20, b: guilty plea. Fined £25 and £10.

Disorderly conduct (13 cases)

Male, 21, b: fined £40.

Male, 16, b: not guilty plea, £10.

Male, 15, b: fined £5.

Male, 14, b: fined £5.

Male, 14, b: cautioned.

Female, 17, b: guilty plea, fined 7 days.

Female, 21, w: guilty plea, 12 months con. dis.

Female, 38, M: 12 months con. dis.

Male, 12, b: absolute discharge.

Male, 21, b: Fined £70. 3 months imp. sus. 2 years.

Burglary (24 cases)

Male, 16, b: not guilty plea, found not guilty.

Male, 16, b: fined £500.

Female, 17, w: 2 months imp. sus. 2 years.

Male, 44, b: 6 months imp. sus. 2 years. Fined £100 (theft).

Male, 15, w: 12 months con. dis.

Male, 15, b: 12 months con. dis.

Male, 17, b: not guilty plea, 12 months con. dis.

Male, 20, w: not guilty plea, 2 months imp. sus. (3 cases con. curv.) Fined £50.

Male, 28, b: not guilty plea, found N.G.

Female, 16, b: discharged Section 15.

Male, 14, w: guilty plea, 12 months con. dis.

Male, 18, w: 60 hours community service.

Female, 18, w: (1) con. dis. 18 months; (2) con. dis. 18 months, con. for handling.

Male, 14, b: placed in care.

Female, 17, b: guilty plea, 12 months con. dis.

Male, 15, w: fined £5.

Male, 14, M: 12 months con. dis.

Male, 17, w: 3 months d.c.

Male, 23, w: 3 months d.c.

Male, 23, w: guilty plea, £100.

Male, 18, b: 12 months con. dis.

Female, 19, w: guilty plea, £50.

Male, 14, b: 12 months con. dis.

Female, 16, b: not guilty plea, 12 months con. dis.

Male, 16, w: not guilty plea, found N.G.

Female, 18, b: B.O. £50 for 12 months.

Male, 24, w: fined £50.

Highway obstruction (2 cases)

Male, 16, b: fined £25. B.O. £100 for 12 months.

Male, 15, b: 12 months con. dis.

Obstructing police

Male, 16, b: not guilty plea, fined £30.

Male, 17, b: not guilty plea, found N.G.

Male, 27, b: fined £25.

Male, 20, b: fined £25.

Male, 25, w: B.O. £50 for 12 months.

Assault on police

Male, 48, w: 6 months jail.

Male, 17, b: not guilty.

Insulting words

Male, 25, w: guilty plea, £40.

Possession of bullets (Firearms Act offence)

Male, 18, b: 12 months con. dis.

Criminal damage

Male, 16, b: B.O. £50 for 12 months.

Male, 16, b: Fined £50 + £95 comp.

Male, 17, b: 24 hours attendance centre. Pay £25 comp.

Male, 20, b: guilty plea, 24 hours attendance centre.

Outing equipment to cause criminal damage

Male, 16, b: fined £25. B.O. £50.

## Magistrates impose heavy fines and jail sentences

By Frances Gibb

Hundreds of young people, black and white, came before magistrates throughout the country yesterday and faced tough penalties, including fines of up to £500 and prison sentences of up to nine months, for offences arising out of riots in several cities at the weekend.

At a special riot court convened at Stockport, an engineering foreman, aged 37, was fined £500 for using threatening and abusive language to the police and an unemployed 28-year-old white man was jailed for nine months at Mylebone magistrates' court in London for looting a necklace worth £285.

At the same court Mr Roderick Romain, the magistrate, fined a 33-year-old white mother of three £100 for shouting "black animals go home" in "Shepherd's Bush on Saturday night and warned that parents could end up in jail if further offences by their children made them liable for fines which they could not pay.

Probably the youngest defendants yesterday where two white sisters, 11 and 12, who appeared at Lambeth West Juvenile Court in London, one accused of stealing shoes, the other of attempting to steal from shops in Clapham.

They were typical of the majority of defendants in court yesterday, not only because of their age and sex (they were the only girls charged in connection with the riots) but because of their "guilty" plea.

Every one of the other 10 defendants, seven of whom were black, denied charges ranging from theft to being in possession of offensive weapons, such as a wooden club or steel flail, and from criminal damage to inciting others to throw bricks or petrol bombs.

Accepting that in the case of the two girls, their looting had been a "one-off escape" Mr G D Gibbins, chairman of the bench, gave them a 12-month conditional discharge after their father said he had stopped their pocket money and banned them from going out for a month.

Of the other 10 defendants, aged 13 to 16 years, seven of whom had no previous convictions, seven were remanded on bail, four with curfew conditions, until later dates.

The same pattern of denials emerged at Sheffield, where most of the 11 youths alleged to have been involved in skinhead rioting in the city centre pleaded not guilty and their cases were adjourned.

But elsewhere magistrates meted out heavy sentences. At Nottingham, 11 people were given custodial sentences, including up to four months imprisonment and up to six months in a detention centre. Many other defendants were

fined up to £500 for looting and using threatening words and behaviour.

Mr Ronald Walton, court chairman, said: "I hope magistrates have made it quite clear that they will not tolerate offences of this sort. The courts must protect society and carry out their tasks fearlessly on behalf of the community."

Four youths were jailed for three months, one sent to prison for four months and a sixth to a detention centre for six months. Inspector Colin Sheppard told the court: "It was not a race riot. There were blacks and white together."

At Leicester, 18 young people, four of them juveniles, appeared before magistrates. Robert Patrick Flowers, a white 18-year-old student, admitted threatening words and behaviour and was sent to a detention centre for three months.

Chief Inspector Peter Baker, prosecuting, said that just after midnight Flowers was one of a large group of youths running along Evington Street, Highfields, some of whom were carrying sticks and bottles. Flowers shouted to the police: "Kill the pigs. Kill the pigs."

A total of 40 people appeared before magistrates at Manchester, 26 white and 14 coloured; 14 in jobs and 26 unemployed. The magistrates dealt with 14 and the rest were remanded until later dates.

Gary Oxtan, aged 18, of South Radford Street, Salford, and Anthony Moynihan, aged 17, of Newton Heath, Manchester, were each jailed for two months. They admitted disorderly behaviour and Oxtan also pleaded guilty to causing criminal damage.

At Camberwell magistrates' court in South London, 37 people, including a 14-year-old boy and a 15-year-old girl, appeared on charges. His "honeymoon" with the residents lasted barely a month before the weekend of riots and looting which changed so many comfortable assumptions about the nature of English society.

On the Saturday evening, when the curfew was at its height, about 40 members of the Special Patrol Group moved into the estate, refusing to leave until order was restored. According to observers, the estate had been quiet up to that point, but the arrival of the SPG was greeted with furious abuse and hails of missiles.

Three months later Constable Waterkeyn is trying to pick up the pieces. Young, well-educated and highly articulate, he bears little resemblance to the traditional "bobby on the beat." But despite setbacks he still believes that he can build on his predecessors' success.

Since the community policing scheme was introduced in 1979, he says, serious crime, including arson and muggings, has dropped by 40 per cent. Minor crimes like theft from cars are down by more than 30 per cent.

But since the disturbances began he has had to be circumspect. Petrol bombs have been found on the estate, and there is the risk of bricks and bottles being thrown from the pedestrian bridges which criss-cross between the buildings. "I tend to duck more," he says with a grin.

PC Waterkeyn's appointment coincided with a tenant management scheme introduced by Lambeth Council, which also appears to have shown promising results. At the time it was started, at least 60 of the 1,050 flats were empty and another 40 contained squatters.

Today, according to Mrs Jean Styles, chairman of the tenants' association, only two flats are empty and two "squatted". When the association began, it had half a dozen members; now there is a management committee of 32.

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Christian Waterkeyn, community policeman, makes friends with Terri Cain.

## Where the PC tends to duck more often

By John Young, Planning Reporter

Last March Constable Christian Waterkeyn was posted as "Community Policeman" to the Stockwell Park housing estate, about half a mile from the centre of Brixton. His "honeymoon" with the residents lasted barely a month before the weekend of riots and looting which changed so many comfortable assumptions about the nature of English society.

On the Saturday evening, when the curfew was at its height, about 40 members of the Special Patrol Group moved into the estate, refusing to leave until order was restored. According to observers, the estate had been quiet up to that point, but the arrival of the SPG was greeted with furious abuse and hails of missiles.

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## Cabinet to consider quickie Riot Act

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

If the Cabinet decides on Thursday to introduce a new Riot Act to help the police take swift action against rioters, it will be a short Bill and facilities will be made to get it approved by the Commons and the Lords in the remaining three weeks before Parliament rises for the summer recess.

However, it is not certain that the Government will decide on this course. Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, and the law officers have been asked to put the arguments for and against the revival of an old legal provision which may not be suitable in modern circumstances.

Ministers also have to take account of the prospect that many Labour MPs, and possibly some Liberals, will have objections to a measure which will give the police the power to make summary arrests with hardly any safeguards for the innocent individual who may be caught in a riot.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, after her consultations with senior police officers, is said to be less than enthusiastic about a new riot act. Some Government advisers have said that the police already have wide powers to arrest people when they cause obstruction and these can be used to clear the streets. But when a riot is in progress, detailed evidence could be difficult to note.

Under the Riot Act, 1714, a magistrate was required to make a declaration under the Act and the crowd was required to disperse within an hour.

In the modernised Act that has been prepared for the Cabinet to discuss, it is proposed that the declaration would be made by a designated police officer, and the period allowed for dispersal would be much less than an hour.

Once that time ran out, the police could arrest everyone remaining on the streets. It would be a catch-all situation, not open to argument or legal challenge, if the people remained, they would be guilty of an offence. The police would be immune from any legal action. There would be no question of appeal to a higher court. There could be heavy fines, and/or imprisonment of up to six months or a longer period.

Yesterday, while confirming that this proposal would be put to the Cabinet, several Ministers

expressed doubts whether it is necessary.

The doubters are said to include Mr Whitelaw himself, but the Government is under pressure from some Conservative backbenchers to strengthen the hand of the police.

Meanwhile, Mr Whitelaw is anxious to clear up the confusion over "special courts" or "riot courts" mentioned in some newspapers over the weekend. Magistrates can, and do, sit at whatever time they choose, and can arrange special sittings at any time to meet special circumstances.

Examiners in the past four days, a number of benches have been in session at night time to deal with rioters. There is no question of the Government stepping in to speed up the handling of these cases; it is being left to the magistrates' discretion.

The Home Office working party on police protective clothing and equipment is considering a number of innovations. The issue of helmets is said to have been a great success, offering much greater protection than the traditional helmet. The police wearing them had more confidence and were able to break out of the set line formations to grab the offenders.

One of the disadvantages of water cannon is the relatively short range and rioters can easily escape them by running up side alleys.

Water rounds or plastic bullets are also being advised for possible use, but only as a last resort when other methods have failed.

CS gas is put in the same category as plastic bullets for use only in extremity, as in Liverpool where there was a threat to a central police station. But there are dangers in its use, which must be dependent on wind strength and direction.

The Police Federation has pointed out that there could be dangers for police officers in some circumstances if they are not equipped with gas masks when the gas is used.

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## Mellish will not stand at general election

By Philip Webster, Political Staff

Mr Robert Mellish, Labour MP for Southwark, Bermondsey, the former Labour government chief whip, said yesterday that he did not intend to stand for Parliament at the next general election.

Mr Mellish, aged 68, had already said that he might resign in the autumn if he found that his work as vice-chairman of the Docklands Urban Development Corporation interfered too much with his duties as an MP.

He has also had differences with his left-wing dominated constituency general management committee, which has accused him of being out of touch with the mainstream of local party opinion.

Labour's national executive committee is inquiring into the running of the Bermondsey party.

Mr Mellish held the seat with a 11,756 majority over the Conservatives at the last election, with the Liberals a poor third.

## University grant cuts inquiry

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The University Grants Committee has been summoned to appear before the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts next week to explain the criteria it used in deciding how to distribute the cuts in the Government grant to universities.

The hearing will be in private. It will be the first time that the select committee, whose meetings are normally open to the public and the press, will have held a meeting behind closed doors. The Committee has been asked to explain the criteria it used in deciding how to distribute the cuts in the Government grant to universities.

Mr John Osborn, Conservative MP for Sheffield, Hallam, said that he did not want to examine in public the grant committee had made the right decisions or not, but rather what factors were involved in reaching the decisions. The committee might decide to hold another session later in public.

Mr John Osborn, Conservative MP for Sheffield, Hallam, said that



## British Steel's Channel tunnel 'too dear' claim

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

British Steel's huge scheme for a combined bridge and tunnel across the Channel would cost not £3,800m but £10,000m to £11,000m, a rival promoter claimed yesterday. Sir David Nicholson, chairman of the European Channel Tunnel Group, said they had begun by examining a scheme similar to British Steel's before settling for a "minimum-cost solution" - a single-tube rail-only tunnel costing about £800m.

The BS-type scheme was an imaginary project which would well be appropriate in 25 years' time, said Sir David, Euro-MP for Central London and former chairman of British Airways. But its large capacity would require big modifications to the transport infrastructure in both Kent and northern France that would push up its cost to over £10,000m, and ECTG had concluded that in order to get something going now, a bored railway tunnel similar to that proposed by British and French Rail was the best way to advance.

Of the port and ferry study which alleged last week that ferries could carry the whole of the traffic with existing ferries and bankrupt a tunnel, Sir David said: "It is what you would expect them to say. But we see no reason to subsidise a tunnel it would be a perfectly viable proposition."

## Kenny Everett returns to favour with BBC

By Kenneth Gossling

Four new comedy series, the return of Kenny Everett and six new episodes in the new year of *Not the Nine O'Clock News* are included in the programme plan of BBC Television's light entertainment department for the coming autumn and winter.

Mr Everett is back, after being "booted out" in his own words, by the BBC in 1970, to do a Christmas show followed by a series of seven programmes in the new year. The other new comedy series are *Only Fools and Horses*, by John Sullivan, with David Jason; *Goodbye Mr. K*, by Peter Vincent and Peter Robinson, with Richard Briers and Hannah Gordon; *The Last Song*, by Carol and Geoff Palmer; and *John Fortune's Roger Don't Live Here Any More*, with Jonathan Pryce, who appeared in *Timon of Athens*.

## Big increase in aid sought for Welsh museums

By a Staff Reporter

A new report on Welsh museums and galleries calls for the most substantial increase in possible year by year in funding by the Welsh Office.

The report, written by Professor Brian Morris, principal of St David's University College, Lampeter, for the Standing Commission on Museums and Galleries, acknowledges a 38 per cent increase in grant for 1981/82, but the need, it says, is for a fourfold increase as soon as this might be done.

Professor Morris also calls for three new institutions for Wales, a national gallery, a national portrait gallery and a museum of photography. Even the kind of increase in funding the report recommends would not, it says, take account of the impoverishment suffered in the past.

"The situation here", Professor Morris writes, "is directly comparable with that in the National Museum or the National Library in Wales, which, although it is a copy-

right library, has been so underfunded since the beginning of the century that it has accrued an almost insuperable backlog of needs.

"It would take years of extra and special provision to bring it to equality with other national libraries. We realise that there is no likelihood of such massive additional funds being made available to the Council of Museums in Wales in the years immediately ahead."

"This, however, should not obscure the vital need for the disorganised position of the Council to be fully and officially recognized."

It was almost true to say that the problems of museums in Wales, other than the national museum, could be solved at a stroke if the council were assured in the future of a level of funding to make it the equal of area museum councils in England.

Standing Commission on Museums and Galleries: Report on Museums in Wales (Stationery Office, £3.25).



Dr Runcie: "Delicately poised between the cliché and the indiscretion."

## Archbishop's advice to royal couple

By John Withersow

Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, disclosed yesterday that he had talked about the problems of marriage, sex and bringing up children when he discussed the royal wedding with the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer.

"The discussion was not confined to the arrangements for the service", he told a press conference at Lambeth Palace. "We talked about the reasons for matrimony. That children should be brought up in the fear of the Lord, and that at a marriage one is creating a new family."

"Your loyalties to the old family exist but are subservient to loyalties to the new family. There has been a rather distorted attitude to sex, but in the true Christian tradition sex is a good thing given by God which nevertheless, like all God's good gifts, needs to be directed aright."

Dr Runcie, who, when he marries the couple at St Paul's Cathedral on July 29, will be conducting his first marriage ceremony since he became archbishop last year, added they had discussed that in giving each other mutual society and support at different stages of the marriage one might be doing more supporting than the other.

Aware that he was poised delicately "between the cliché and the indiscretion" he said the archbishop excluded the "obey" clause in the service had been taken fairly quickly.

## Jews win courage award

By Lucy Hodges

Two Jews who are in internal exile for wanting to leave the Soviet Union were presented with a special award in London yesterday. Mr George Thomas, Speaker of the House of Commons.

Ida Nudel, aged 50, exiled in Siberia since 1978, and Dr Victor Brailovsky, aged 46, the cyberneticist sentenced to five years in exile by a Moscow court last month, are joint winners of the annual award of the Parliamentary Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry.

Their prize, a Henry Moore lithograph inscribed by the artist with the words "For Courage in Defence of Freedom", were received by Mrs Elena Fridman, Ida Nudel's sister, and Professor John Ziman, on behalf of Dr Brailovsky.

Ida Nudel has been one of the leaders of the Soviet Jewry movement. Dr Brailovsky has held scientific seminars regularly in his Moscow flat for "refusenik" scientists until his arrest.

## Millionaire chief of worldwide drugs ring found guilty of handless corpse murder

Alexander Sinclair, a millionaire head of a drugs ring, was found guilty yesterday of the "handless corpse" murder of Mr Marty Johnstone, a member of the drug syndicate. Mr Sinclair, aged 28, was also convicted of conspiring to import drugs into the United Kingdom.

Two other men in the dock with him at Lancaster Crown Court were also found guilty of the murder and three people facing charges of conspiring to supply drugs were cleared.

The verdicts came after 38 hours of deliberation by the jury of seven men and five women in the 121-day-old case, 15 days short of the longest murder trial.

Mr Johnstone's handless, naked body was discovered accidentally by divers in a flooded quarry in Lancashire in October, 1979. The Crown said Mr Sinclair, a New Zealander, living at Stratford Court, Kensington, London, ordered Mr Johnstone's death after he had short-changed the syndicate.

Mr Johnstone had been lured to Britain from his Singapore base by the promise of a drugs contract, which was in fact phoney, and while he was being driven towards Scotland he was shot twice and snatched in a lay-by on the A6 north of Lancaster.

Two men, Andrew Samuel Maher, aged 27, of Robin Hey, Moss Side, Leyland, Lancashire, and Frederick Charles Russell, aged 40, of Prince of Wales Road, Kentish Town, London, had pleaded guilty to the murder earlier and were not in court yesterday.

The jury foreman read out the unanimous verdicts in turn: Sinclair was guilty of murder and conspiracy to import drugs. He had pleaded guilty to conspiring to supply drugs.

Jimmy Smith, a former Scots Guardsman, of Durward Rise, Livingston, West Lothian, was guilty of murder. He had pleaded guilty to both drug conspiracy charges.

Keith "Billy" Kirby, of Daisy Meadow, Clayton Brook, near Preston, Lancashire, was guilty of murder. He had also pleaded guilty to both drug conspiracy charges.

Jack Barclay, of Briar Close, Finchley, London, was found not guilty of conspiring to supply drugs and conspiring to supply them.

Errol Hinkman, a New Zealander, of High Road, Leyton, London, was found guilty of both drug conspiracy charges. Karen Soich, Mr Sinclair's lover and also a New Zealander, of Stafford Court, Kensington, was found not guilty of both drug charges.

Christopher Scott Blackman, of Princess Road, Regent's Park, London, was found guilty of both drug conspiracy charges. Kingsley Fagan, also a former Scots Guardsman, of Oakbank Street, Craigieuk, Airdrie, was found not guilty of both drug conspiracy charges.

Sylvester Alphonso Pidgeon, of Truro Road, Walthamstow, London, was found guilty of both drug conspiracy charges. Miss Soich, a lawyer, broke into tears as the jury foreman sat down.

The prosecution had said that the drug syndicate was a multi-million pound organization at war with world society, peddling misery and slow death in Australia, New Zealand, the United States and the United Kingdom.

It smuggled heroin, cocaine and cannabis in the form of Thai sticks, using - passports

"like confetti". The men enjoyed the huge profits and would stop at absolutely nothing.

Mr Johnstone was in the way and had to be removed. After his death his hands were chopped off in an attempt to prevent identification and his face was disfigured with a hammer before his body was dumped in a quarry near Chorley, Lancashire.

The discovery of the body received extensive publicity and Mr Johnstone's lover Julie Hey and Barbara Pilkington, who lived with Mr Maher, went to the police. Their information led to the arrest of 40 people.

Leila Barclay, 49, of Briar Close, Finchley, London, who had earlier pleaded guilty to two drug charges was said by the prosecution to have been the banker for the English end of the syndicate. Her home was described as an Aladdin's cave of drug equipment and a safe house for the syndicate.

The court later resumed to hear the prosecution case against the three defendants who had pleaded guilty to all charges.

The trial continues.

## The small-time cannabis operation which grew

Andrew Sinclair is wanted in Australia in connection with the murder of Douglas and Isobel Wilson, New Zealanders whose bodies were found in a shallow grave in May, 1979. He met Mr Johnstone, the murdered man, in Auckland, New Zealand in 1975. Both were drug dealers, buying cannabis from Thai sailors. It was natural that the two competitors should form one business.

Mr Johnstone had convictions for theft and burglary and for growing cannabis plant, but as the drugs racket prospered, he became addicted to high living. Mr Sinclair told British police: "He wanted to live like Howard Hughes and blow his money away."

Mr Johnstone flew on the Concorde inaugural flight from Singapore to London, and travelled around Britain in a chauffeur-driven car.

Mr Sinclair entered crime as a petty thief and made his first big contacts in the drug world while serving a five-year sentence for burglary in the early 1970s.

He married first at 20, but was later divorced. His second wife died a heroin addict. Like Johnstone he liked the good life of big cars and grand hotels.

Andy Maher met the pair when he started work in Mr Johnstone's father's menswear store. He had emigrated to New Zealand from Leyland, Lancashire, at the age of 18.

He returned to Britain in 1976 and eventually settled down back at Leyland, describing himself to neighbours as an importer-exporter.

He made frequent trips to the far East to meet Mr Johnstone and Mr Sinclair. He was in Thailand when Mr Johnstone executed what members of the gang believed was an especially big double-cross on a £500,000 drugs deal.

They were staying at the Thai resort of Pataya beach so that Mr Johnstone could buy heroin. He went to meet some tribesmen and came back with bags of sugar or flour in exchange for the syndicate's £50m.

He claimed he had been duped and that he dared not use his own gun in case other armed tribesmen were around. Nobody will ever know the truth about the deal - whether he cheated the syndicate or whether the Thai men double-crossed him.



Guilty: From left, James Smith, Keith Kirby and Alexander Sinclair.

Other deaths have been linked with the gang. Australian and New Zealand police began to move in on the gang after the Wilson murders and, in the spring of 1979, the syndicate decided to move its headquarters to London and develop the British connection.

During the last 15 months of his life, Mr Johnstone was spending £4,000 a month on hotels and travel.

But his behaviour was becoming more flamboyant. He took to strange dress, cowboy hats, nail polish and a walking cane.

Monique Van Putten, a key syndicate member, claimed he was smoking too much cannabis. According to evidence at the trial, she had warned that his behaviour would get everyone killed.

Mr Maher, Mr Johnstone's best friend, played "the judas" and pumped two bullets into his head at point-blank range.

As operations expanded, couriers accompanied by an escort, would smuggle the syndicate's drugs through airports in two tarmac suitcases with false bottoms.

The prosecution at Lancaster claimed that the consents on each run were worth £15m and police have estimated that Mr Sinclair may have amassed as

# Public Service Pensions

issued by the PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE

The Paymaster General's Office (PGO) regrets that industrial action by computer staff of two Civil Service unions at the office at Crawley is preventing the general issue of:

- a) replacement books for weekly paid pensions;
- b) pensions paid monthly or quarterly direct to bank accounts;
- c) pension vouchers sent monthly or quarterly direct to pensioners.

Pensioners will be paid the full pension due to them as soon as possible after the end of the industrial action.

### WEEKLY PENSIONS

If you are paid weekly through the Post Office and your expired pension book has not been replaced, take the empty book to your usual Post Office. In most cases the Post Office will be able to make one emergency payment at the old rate each week until your new book arrives. If you are away from your normal address, another Post Office can make emergency payments but only for two weeks. The Post Office can pay only the value of one week's pension at a time. You should apply each week.

If the Post Office cannot make emergency payments, you should seek help at 2 and 3 below, enclosing your expired book if you write to the PGO.

### MONTHLY & QUARTERLY PENSIONS

If your pension is paid monthly or quarterly and you are in financial difficulty, help will be available in the following ways:

1. If your pension is paid into a bank account, you should see your bank manager taking with you your most recent advice of payment. Banks have been advised that this industrial action may cause problems outside the pensioner's control, and your bank manager may be prepared to help. The PGO, however, regrets that it is unable to defray any charges that may arise.
2. If you are in serious financial difficulties you should seek advice at your local Social Security Office and, if you are without means, you may claim urgent help by way of supplementary benefit.
3. If your bank or the Social Security Office is unable to help, you should write to the PGO for an emergency payment.

Pensioners writing should address the letter (no stamp required) to: PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE, FREEPOST, CRAWLEY, WEST SUSSEX RH10 1ZA - enclose an unstamped self-addressed envelope marked boldly with the date on which payment is due, and the PENSION REFERENCE.

Every endeavour will be made to issue the payment as soon as possible, but some delay may be unavoidable. Unfortunately it will not be possible to accept telephone requests for emergency payments.

NOTE: This notice applies only to public service pensions issued from the PGO, Crawley, such as pensions to retired teachers, civil servants, NHS employees, certain retired members of the armed forces and the dependants of each group. It does not apply to National Insurance retirement pensions issued by DHSS.

## SEX APPEAL IN CHURCH SUGGESTED

A vicar's wife yesterday called for women to be ordained as priests so their sexuality would attract more men to church.

Mrs Jean Mayland, organizer of an international conference on Sexism in the Church, said: "There is a good positive side of sexuality which should be exploited for religion."

Mrs Mayland, 44, whose husband is Vicar of Ecclesfield, near Sheffield, called for priestesses after the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, opened the conference in Sheffield at the weekend.

She said yesterday: "I definitely think women would attract men to the church. For far too long the church has been dominated by male sexuality, and many women have found comfort from father figures."

"But it is a form of sexuality that often leads to perversion and promiscuity."

She continued: "Men have been required to be non-sexual. But sex is not something that the church should be frightened by. There is an intimate relationship between religion and sex. They are both involved with the basic answers to an understanding of creation."

But Dr Runcie has held few hopes for the priesthood. "Women do invaluable work in the church as marriage guidance counsellors, spiritual advisers and so on," he said.

## £1m FOR SECURITY

Broadmoor Hospital, at Crowthorne, Berkshire, is to have a new emergency control centre built at a cost of £1m.

## Archaeology

### Medieval salt industry uncovered at Nantwich

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

Unusual evidence of one of Britain's medieval cottage industries, salt-making, has been uncovered in recent excavations at Nantwich, Cheshire. Two hollow log "ships" for boiling brine were found, dating to the sixteenth century, together with traces of earlier buildings used for salt production and known as "wick houses". One of the log "ships" has been lifted for conservation and eventual museum display.

Nantwich was, together with Middlewich and Northwich, one of the principal salt-towns of Cheshire, and brine boiling is known to have begun at the west bank of the River Weaver in the thirteenth century and continued until the sixteenth. There had not, however, been any archaeological study of the medieval salt-making industry until a known site in Wood Street became available during sewerage works.

The excavation, reported in the recent issue of *Current Archaeology*, found two periods of activity: the "ships" belong to the latter of these, and consisted of hollowed-out tree trunks set in a solid bed of clay. The better-preserved of the two was 8.5 metres (28 feet) long, divided by wooden spars into unusually wide compartments. Each is estimated to have held some 400 gallons of brine, and to have produced about 130 gallons of salt at a boiling, a substantial rate of productivity.

No contemporary brick houses were found, but historic documents indicate that the boiling was carried out under cover. Half a dozen brine barrels were found in a line to the east of the "ships", and three channels may have been for draining off excess brine from the newly stored salt.

From the earlier, medieval period of the site two wick houses were excavated, one lying just south of one of the later boiling-ships; the other a massive post-built structure under both shipsteadings. The flimsier southern house was built of stakes and wattle panels, the other walls of lath; both were open-ended barnlike structures between 10 and 12 metres long and 8 metres wide (about 39 by 26 feet), opening on to Wood Street.

Finds were a conical wicker "barrow" basket used for storing the salt, and wooden salt rake heads, used for pulling the precipitating salt to the sides of the pans. This furniture is of thirteenth and fourteenth century date, but the types are recorded as being still in use in the late sixteenth century, an interesting example of persisting traditional technology. Documentary sources indicate that the Domesday salt works were east of the river on Snow Hill, so that the earlier history of salt making in Nantwich will have to be pursued elsewhere.

Source: *Current Archaeology* VII No 6, 185-187.

## GUITAR IS THE MALE'S PRESERVE

By Our Music Reporter

The classical guitar seems certain to remain the preserve of male players, if entries for the first Segovia International Guitar Competition are a fair indication of the guitarists of the future. Only about one in ten of the young contestants are women.

American and British players dominate the 30 entrants from 19 countries, accepted for the competition which will be held at Leeds, Castle, Kent, from October 9 to 14.

As well as 13 contestants from the United States and 12 from Britain, there are four Argentinians, three Italians and players from Iceland, Canada, Australia, Brazil and Poland.

There is only one performer from Segovia's homeland, Spain, although the competition is sponsored by the Sherry Producers of Spain.

The youngest competitor is a Briton, Paul Galbraith, aged 17. The prize money totals £5,450 and there are offers of concerts and recitals in London, Paris and Rome.

## MAN ON BANNED MARCH FINED

Pleading guilty at Willesden, London, yesterday to obstructing the police in Kilburn, London, on April 26, George Wright, aged 34, of Brougham Road, Hackney, was fined £80 and a further £5 for failing to appear on June 30.

He was arrested when police were preventing a banned march in support of the Irish Hunger strike, Robert Sands.



# Unions say 24-hour gas strike fully supported

By Donald MacIntyre, Labour Correspondent

British Gas and union leaders both said last night that the majority of the corporation's 166,000 manual and white-collar workers had taken part in an official 24-hour strike against the Government's plans to sell off all the high street gas showrooms.

Some areas of the country, including the North-east, Cumbria and West Midlands and parts of the North-west were left without a normal emergency service after local union officials failed to agree with management on the level of safety cover to be provided.

British Gas said in the early evening, however, that there had been no reports of serious incidents putting the public or users at risk. In most regions emergency cover was roughly equivalent to that for a bank holiday.

The strike was reported to have closed the 900 gas showrooms along with service centres, and all but top management had walked out at the corporation's main depots, except Killingholme in the East

Midlands, a high-risk butane plant where the unions agreed to provide 75 per cent safety cover.

Because of British Gas's highly automated transmission of natural gas through underground pipelines there had by early last evening been no appreciable effect on supplies.

Both the General and Municipal Workers Union and the National and Local Government Officers' Association, who yesterday claimed 100 per cent support for the strike, have given warning that a more prolonged stoppage would shut down the supply system.

Mr John Edmunds, national energy officer for the GMAU, said last night that the unanimous support of the union's 46,000 members in the industry "demonstrates the bitterness they feel at the Government's decision, and the threat to 30,000 jobs."

He added: "We hope that now we have demonstrated that we can bring the industry to a halt that the Government will

listen to the strong arguments against damaging a successful nationalised industry."

Pickets were present outside many showrooms, depots and regional headquarters. Police were alerted to deal with emergencies in the Merseyside and Manchester areas, and in Northamptonshire, where the union withdrew emergency cover after claiming that staff had been instructed to deal normally with customer enquiries.

British Gas however reported that elsewhere, including the Norfolk region and Bristol, senior management had been able to provide limited but adequate emergency cover.

The unions are expected to hold further talks with Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, before taking any steps towards a more prolonged stoppage.

There is a growing belief in Whitehall that there might not be room in the parliamentary timetable for legislation on the Government proposals as early as the next session.

## Third Jenkins enters Warrington fray

From John Charters, Manchester

The name of Jenkins continues to loom large over the Warrington by-election. In spite of the elimination of "the other Roy Jenkins" by the returning officer last week, yet another member of the Jenkins family appeared on the scene yesterday in support of the Labour candidate. He proceeded to decry the proposals made by fellow-crisisman Mr Roy J. for solving unemployment, which remains the predominant election issue.

Last week Mr Roy J. (candidate for the Social Democratic Party), put forward a six-point plan to take one million people off the dole queues. His points included a £70 a week grant to private employers for each extra worker taken on who had been unemployed for more than six months; a £500m investment programme in public industries which would create 50,000 new jobs; and a crash programme to improve sub-standard homes, providing work for up to 250,000 long-term unemployed.

Yesterday Mr Clive J. general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs speaking on behalf of his fellow trade union official, Mr Douglas Hoyle, the Labour candidate, used such immoderate phrases as "economically illiterate, sheer romanticism, delirium, and arithmetically juvenile" about what is labelled in an SDP pamphlet as the "Roy Jenkins plan to cut unemployment".

Mr Clive J. claimed a full-blooded socialist programme to curb unemployment would involve the investment of £200,000m (much of the cash being obtained from Britain's oil and gasfields) and would create one million jobs in the first two years of the next Labour administration.

However, at yesterday morning's press conference Mr Roy J. derived great encouragement from the support he had received during an intense weekend of political activity involving 10 SDP and Liberal MPs, including Mr Jo Grimond, who, he said, had "ambled in".

Mr Roy Jenkins while careful, as usual, never to commit himself too much in a public statement, thought he was gaining support from Labour voters who were worried about the left-wing direction of the party, but also from many former abusers.

He and his supporters thought

## MP pleads for woman from India

By Lucy Hodges

An Indian woman, aged 21, has spent the past 10 weeks in Holloway prison while the Home Office decides whether to deport her.

The case of Miss Tajinder is described as a "sad horror story" by the joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (CJWI) and Mr Ray Whitney, Conservative MP for Wycombe, has taken up her case. He says the Home Secretary should allow her to stay.

Miss Tajinder came to Britain at the age of 15, thinking she was the wife of Mr Mohinder Singh, who lived here.

Although Mr Singh was already married, some form of ceremony was arranged in Delhi and the couple came to Britain.

Mr Singh began to drink heavily and was violent. Last year he died in a fall, and Miss Tajinder, after attempting suicide, received treatment at a mental hospital and ended up in Holloway.

## Technology is for girls, Shirley Williams says

From Our Correspondent, Manchester

Mrs Shirley Williams yesterday urged girls to become engineering graduates and help to change Britain.

The former Secretary of State for Education was speaking at Salford University at the start of a week's course sponsored by the Engineering Industry Training Board to persuade girls to choose engineering as a career.

Mrs Williams said she felt a woman's role was in engineering and the technological industries in the future. It was obvious that the country was going through a phenomenal change in its economic and industrial structure. It was vital that the new technologies led to a better society.

"We need people with imagination and compassion to see that the new technologies can be made to work," she said. She felt that often girls were more perceptive about the uses of technology than men who had dominated the field for two centuries.

"Both men and women have enormous amounts to contribute to the advancing frontiers of technology," she said. But women who wanted to be engineers should have determination that they could restructure the country.

The former Secretary of State for Education urged the Government to accept different criteria when considering the University Grants Committee's recommendations on the future of higher education.

"We have tended to develop the abstract, academic, arts scholar over the person who can put that knowledge to use," she said.

She was not surprised that the Committee had used the traditional criteria as the measure of which universities should be encouraged and which should be discouraged.

"It seems to me that the employability of the graduates, the extent to which their training is appropriate and the extent to which they are directly supporting the university should be additional factors to be taken into account."



Captain Turk and swan uppers tackle one of the few birds found yesterday between Walton-on-Thames and Staines.

## Worst day of swan upping for centuries

By Tony Samstag

Captain John Turk is not a happy man this morning. Yesterday's swan upping, the opening of the annual procession of the Queen's ransom and five Thames skiffs up the Thames from Sunbury to Pangbourne, was the worst in his dozen years as Royal Keeper of the Swans.

It was most probably the worst day of swan upping in the four-to-seven centuries this curious ritual is thought to have existed.

At Chertsey, the halfway point in yesterday's journey to Windsor, Captain Turk and his entourage, representing the Ancient Companies of Vintners and Dyers as well as the Crown, had seen not one cygnet and precious few adult birds. The second stage of the journey was a little better, but not much.

When one passer-by at Chertsey lock said she had seen three cygnets in a gravel pit

near Shepperton, Captain Turk shook his head and said ruefully: "They must have known we were coming."

Swan upping, a corruption of "driving up", is nothing more or less than a census-taking, a legacy of the days when the bird was an important food source.

Each family of mute swans, pen, cob and cygnets, is caught and inspected for the micked beak that indicates ownership by the Vintners and Dyers, or the unmarked beak that is the prerogative of the royal birds.

Cygnets receive the same marks, or remain unmarked, as their parents.

Biologists, who are pleased to have the Crown carrying out this useful ecological survey, for them, are unanimous in their opinion that lead poisoning is the cause of the swans' decline and that the most likely source of lead is anglers' weights. The anglers, not surprisingly, demur.

But until a satisfactory non-toxic substitute for the weights is devised, the decline of the swan and the controversy, will probably continue.

Coasting the lead with various impermeable substances does not work. The fearsome digestive process of the swan grinds them away.

Clearly, the mute swan as a species is not in danger of extinction, although the prospect of a Thames, or an Avon, for that matter, without them is depressing.

Not that the bird is universally popular. Lord Kingsale and Ringwood, writing to *The Times* in 1975, put the case against the moribundly and elegantly: "In favour of swans it can only be said that they have a distinct ornamental value, and may, in some cases, keep water free of undesirable weed."

Against them the list of vices is formidable. That list included damage to pastureland, destruction of fish

spawn and young wildlife, and a generally malevolent disposition rare in the animal world. Rare in those joining through occupational schemes went up by 180,000. The British United Provident Association (BUPA), a quarter went on surgeons' fees (26 per cent), and only 2 per cent went on other specialist fees, reflecting the fact that most people use their insurance for surgery.

A report by Lee Donaldson, Associations, consultant economists, says that about half the rise went on hospital accommodation (51 per cent), a quarter went on surgeons' fees (26 per cent), and only 2 per cent went on other specialist fees, reflecting the fact that most people use their insurance for surgery.

Private patients paid £127.7m for hospital care, of which £114 was reimbursed by the private associations.

Provisional Statistics 1979-80 (The Daily Telegraph, 22-24 July 1981, SW14 6AL; £3 inc.).

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## Disabled jobs quota is to end

By Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent

Fears that the Manpower Services Commission review of the quota scheme for disabled workers would lead to its abandonment are confirmed in a draft of the final report, to be published next week, which has reached *The Times*.

The review recommends that the quota be abolished in favour of new legislation placing a general statutory duty on employers to take reasonable steps to promote equality of opportunity in employment for disabled people.

The new statutory duty would be linked to a suggested quota of practice which would provide a rough guide to the proportion of disabled people employed should be broadly equal to the existing quota level of 3 per cent for companies with 20 or more staff.

The proposals will be seen as a considerable weakening of existing legislation, which requires private companies to meet the quota. Although it is widely accepted that the quota has not been enforced fully, it is seen by many disabled organizations as a valuable protection for disabled workers which should be strengthened.

The commission, however, appears to regard the present quota as unworkable and unsuited to present circumstances. Its report says the number of registered disabled people has dropped from 666,400 in 1961 to 470,000 in 1980, a fall from 3.5 per cent of the workforce to 1.9 per cent.

The report comments: "The decreasing numbers of disabled people choosing to register have meant that employers are being expected to comply with, and the MSC to administer, and enforce, an impracticable law."

As a direct result of the decline in registration, the report says, the number of firms complying with the law has steadily declined. In 1961, 61.4 per cent of private firms met the quota, but by last year the proportion had fallen to 35.1 per cent.

The document states that the commission has not tried to enforce the quota scheme more strictly because it believes it would have little value. Stricter enforcement would have diverted its resources from other services to disabled people and raised questions about the suitability of particular people for specific jobs.

The report recommends a comprehensive policy on the employment of disabled people, including training initiatives such as the "fit for work" campaign, reinforced by the statutory general duty.

But the document makes clear that resort to law would be a last resort.

The courts would be brought in only after a lengthy process involving commission staff in visits to suspect firms, bringing in independent third parties, and, if that failed, serving improvement notices. Only if companies failed to comply with those notices would they be taken before magistrates, and they would then have the right to appeal to industrial tribunals.

## The civil servant who is more like a politician

By Peter Hemmings

One way of judging the impact of a senior civil servant is by the number of polished anecdotes that are related about him. On that score the man who dominates Whitehall table talk is Sir Frank Cooper, Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, who has just lived through the sixth defence review since he entered the Air Ministry in 1948.

A typical example came from a seasoned Cooper-watcher who inquired rhetorically one day: "What is the secret of Frank's power? He cannot think. He cannot write and he cannot talk that well either."

"I know, I reckon he gets away with it because he is more of a politician than the politicians themselves. They have never met a civil servant like that before and they do not know how to handle it."

Sir Frank denies this as he does another delicious story put about by a mischievous Northern Ireland politician when he was permanent secretary to Mr Merlyn Rees in the Northern Ireland Office. Merlyn, said Sir Frank, was a fighter who repaired Frank's Spitfire in the war and the relationship is exactly the same today.

The two did know each other in Italy where Mr Rees was a squadron leader doing the administrative work for four squadrons in one of which was serving Flight Lieutenant Cooper.

More generally, Sir Frank said: "I do not think I am what you call a political fixer. I think I am quite a good operator, but then I never think very much about myself."

It is easy to see how the stories arise. In appearance, Sir Frank is a mixture of industrial tycoon and dance hall bouncer. He is incapable of speaking the language of White Paper, talks very bluntly in a style all of his own in private, coming up with phrases like "Old X, he has moved to the right of barbed wire" and almost equally bluntly in public before select committees.

Chatting in his office the other day about the recent defence review, he said it was right to have got it over and done with swiftly: "John Nott [Secretary of State for Defence] has run the thing very much better which I think is absolutely fundamental to a democracy that ministers do actually run their departments. I am very

strongly opposed to officials trying to run the minister."

But did not six reviews in 31 years say something about the quality of defence policy making? "I don't think there was any way you could have had one review alone and got it right. The real problem is that defence is very tightly linked to what is happening in the economy."

"People do tend to be rather more optimistic than events have proved to be in practice. What seems to me to be terribly important now is to improve the quality of our thinking about the future, particularly the rate at which technology has advanced and the real cost of equipment."

He portrays himself these days as no longer a great policy animal, but I see all the papers and even dare to disagree with some of them now and then. Management is his forte and he has trimmed the Ministry of Defence by 38,600 staff since he returned from Northern Ireland four years ago.

A multitude of people in Whitehall regard Sir Frank as the best head of the Home Civil Service we have had since the war. He has always maintained that he would much rather be at defence which for him is home. It has even been suggested that the Prime Minister should ask him to stay on when he reaches retirement age at the end of next year to shake up the bureaucracy and reform it.

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## Big rise in private health insurance

By Annabel Ferguson  
Health Services Correspondent

The number of subscribers to private health insurance schemes went up by 27 per cent in 1980, the highest increase ever recorded. The total rose from 1.3 million to 1.6 million, a report published today.

By the end of the year 3.5 million people, the subscribers and their families, were covered for private health care, representing 6.4 per cent of the population.

More than half the money paid out by the providers societies went on hospital accommodation (51 per cent), a quarter went on surgeons' fees (26 per cent), and only 2 per cent went on other specialist fees, reflecting the fact that most people use their insurance for surgery.

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Provisional Statistics 1979-80 (The Daily Telegraph, 22-24 July 1981, SW14 6AL; £3 inc.).

## Top nurses' union backs 6% offer

By Our Health Services Correspondent

The Royal College of Nursing, the biggest of the three main nursing unions, has voted by more than three to one to accept the Government's 6 per cent pay offer.

The college, which has 185,000 members, canvassed opinions among its branches and stewards, and received 154 comments. Almost four-fifths of the branches who answered wanted to settle and three-quarters of the stewards favoured acceptance.

The offer has been rejected, however, by the National Union of Public Employees, which has 80,000 nurse members. Results of a ballot by the Confederation of Health Service Employees, representing 130,000 nurses, are expected today.

The results of all nursing and midwifery unions come together today at a meeting of the staff side of the Whitley Council to decide what policy to adopt.

A spokesman for the Royal College of Nursing, which has eight out of the 10 seats on the Whitley Council, said yesterday: "The majority of those who endorsed the offer did so because they could see no alternative offer being made. The offer was seen as highly unsatisfactory, and many thought it insulting in the light of awards made recently to miners, policemen and the Armed Forces."

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A spokesman for the Royal College of Nursing, which has eight out of the 10 seats on the Whitley Council, said yesterday: "The majority of those who endorsed the offer did so because they could see no alternative offer being made. The offer was seen as highly unsatisfactory, and many thought it insulting in the light of awards made recently to miners, policemen and the Armed Forces."

The offer has been rejected, however, by the National Union of Public Employees, which has 80,000 nurse members. Results of a ballot by the Confederation of Health Service Employees, representing 130,000 nurses, are expected today.

The results of all nursing and midwifery unions come together today at a meeting of the staff side of the Whitley Council to decide what policy to adopt.

## JP quits over rightwing cell

Mr Alan Todd, a magistrate at Oxford resigned yesterday three days after it was revealed he had joined an extreme rightwing organization.

Mr Todd, aged 45, said he became a member of the Hampshire-based British Resistance to expose it and to satisfy his curiosity.

Topping a flagpole  
The top section of the 225-feet high flag pole at New Gardens, is to be removed next week because it is rotting. The flagstaff, fashioned from Douglas fir, weighs 39 tons and is six feet six inches wide at the base.

Patients poisoned  
Two women psychiatric patients have died in an outbreak of food poisoning which started last week at Hartwood hospital, Shotts, Lanarkshire, health officials disclosed yesterday. Forty eight other patients and six staff also affected are now recovering.

Boxer's trial delay  
John J. Gardner, aged 28, British and European heavyweight boxing champion, of Winston Road, Stoke Newington, north London, who was due to stand trial at Inner London Crown Court yesterday, charged with office burglary and cheque fraud, had his case put back for a date to be fixed. Bail was renewed.

Costly advice  
Citizens Advice Bureaux need more cash to help them cope with increasing requests from the public, the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux director, Mr Jeremy Leighton, said yesterday. The NACAB is funded by Whitehall and local bureaux by local authorities.



Sir William Roberts, in a Harvard trainer, among his collection of historic aircraft, mostly of the last war, to be auctioned today by Christie's at Strathallan airfield, in Perthshire.

## 13in of ancient Egypt fetches £68,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Only 13 inches high and seven inches wide, an Egyptian temple statue of around 1750 BC was sold at Sotheby's yesterday for £68,000 (unpublished estimate £60,000) to the Alexander Carlson Gallery in New York.

The gentleman portrayed is clutching a large lotus blossom; some three millennia later it is pleasing to know his name, which is inscribed around the rim of the basin: Ptah-Ankh, "Servant of the High Priest of Ptah-Mose, Chief Musician of the temple of Ptah, Servant of Ptah."

The sculpture belonged to the notable collection formed in the nineteenth century by Richard von Kaufmann in Berlin; the main part of the collection was dispersed at a 1917 Berlin auction. This piece was retained and sent for sale yesterday by his heirs; there are related statues in the Egyptian Museum in Berlin and the Chateau Borely, Marseilles.

Sotheby's sale of antiquities totalled £496,385 with 14 per cent unsold. While prices for Egyptian pieces were erratic, a tiny red jasper head in profile (1½ ins) made £11,500 (estimate £4,000 to £6,000). It

clearly comes from a decorative inlay in a wall.

Artic black figure Amphora of around 540 BC at £29,000 (estimate £10,000 to £12,000); Sotheby's deadpan description of the scenes depicted no doubt explain the price: "male and young hunter in sexual embrace" . . . "male courting young hunter who is carrying a spear."

At Phillips a routine sale of Old Master paintings encountered difficulties similar to those at Sotheby's and Christie's last week. Some 44 per cent was left unsold out of a total of £44,133.

هكذا من الأصل



## Tehran business leaders executed by firing squads

A prominent Tehran businessman and supporter of former President Bani-Sadr was among 28 "counter-revolutionaries" executed in Iran yesterday, (Reuters reports from London).

Tehran radio said Mr Karim Dastmalchi, a leading member of the Tehran bazaar which financed the Islamic revolution against the late Shah, had discredited the Islamic Republic in interviews given to foreign television networks.

Mr Dastmalchi was active in the lengthy power struggle between Mr Bani-Sadr and the Islamic Republic Party and had been a supporter of Iran's centrist National Front which led early opposition to the Shah.

Second businessman executed was named as Mr Ahmad Javaherian. The radio said he had cooperated with and financed the left-wing Mujahidin, the main target of the present anti-lesser backlash.

The sprawling Tehran bazaar, the largest in the Middle East and controlling most of Iran's foreign trade, financed Ayatollah Khomeini's bid for power.

But Iran's business community has since run into conflict with the ruling fundamentalists over government plans to nationalize foreign trade. Individual businessmen have also been accused of profiteering since the start of the Gulf war with Iraq.

Specific charges against Mr Dastmalchi included creating disruption among the bazaar's Muslim merchants and encouraging them to stage shutdowns and other protest demonstrations.

It was the first time in the present drive against opponents of the Islamic Government that businessmen who were prominent in the revolution had been sent to the firing squad.

Nearly all those arrested and tried since Mr Bani-Sadr's downfall have been supporters of the Mujahidin or of the Marxist Fedayeen group.

This was the case of 19 people executed yesterday in Tehran and towns along the Caspian Sea, a traditional left-wing stronghold. The radio said they were guilty of armed rebellion against the Islamic Republic.

About 200 people have been executed by firing squad in the past month and the rate of executions has risen since the June 28 bombing that killed 72 leading politicians at the Islamic Republic Party headquarters in Tehran.

The remaining seven people executed included five drug dealers, a rapist and a supporter of Mr Shapur Bakhtiar, the Shah's former Prime Minister, the radio said.

The official Pars news agency meanwhile reported an assassination attempt on two clerical officials of revolutionary courts in the Caspian area. Three motor cyclists opened fire on the officials but were driven off by bodyguards.

In Tehran, newspapers reported a grenade attack on a Revolutionary Guard post in which four guards were wounded.

□ Tehran Security forces headquarters here called on people in the city to hand over any firearms they possess—and without fear of incrimination. In an appeal on Tehran radio, they said they would limit action to thanking the people who handed in their weapons.

Some leftist opposition movements, notably the Mujahidin, possess considerable quantities of arms, which they obtained at the time of the Shah's overthrow.—A.P.

## Pakistan summons Indian envoy over clash report

Islamabad, July 13.—The Pakistan Foreign Ministry summoned the Indian ambassador here today to explain "tensionous" Indian press reports of military activities along their border.

The summons was the latest incident in relations between India and Pakistan which are becoming increasingly nervous as a result of the two countries' defence plans. India is buying military equipment from the Soviet Union and Pakistan from the United States.

A Foreign Ministry statement said Mr Nawar Singh, the Indian ambassador, was asked to clarify Indian press reports at the weekend of a build-up of Pakistani troops on the border.

He was also asked to explain another report by the Press Trust of India news agency that five Pakistani soldiers were killed in an incident along the line administered by the United Nations separating Indian and Pakistani troops in Kashmir. A Foreign Ministry statement strongly denied both reports.

In line with a long-standing policy, the United Nations military observer group that administers the line of control would not comment on the Kashmir report.



Señor Pérez Llorca (left), Spain's Foreign Minister, with Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, in Brussels yesterday.

## FRUIT FLY SPRAYERS GROUNDED

From Our Correspondent  
Los Angeles, July 13

California's controversial battle to eradicate the Mediterranean fruit fly took another strange twist yesterday when Mr. Casper Weinberger, the Defense Secretary, refused to allow helicopters spraying pesticides to use military bases in the area.

He overruled Mr. John Block, the Agriculture Secretary, and Navy officials who had given permission for the aircraft to use Moffett Field from tomorrow.

There has been strong opposition on health grounds from residents in the Santa Clara valley, which includes the city of San Jose, to the aerial spraying and today residents took legal action to try to stop the spraying.

On Friday, under pressure from Washington and a threat of a quarantine on all fruit and vegetables in the state, Mr. Jerry Brown, the State Governor, agreed to let aerial spraying go ahead in efforts to wipe out the fruit fly, which is threatening the wealthy agricultural industry.

A Santa Clara judge, considering the injunction filed by residents, said today that there could be no aerial spraying against the fly until he finished the hearing, which might take up to two days.

## Spain wants 'EEC rights' for citizens in Gibraltar

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, July 13

The Lisbon Agreement, which should have come into effect on June 1 last year, provides, among other things, that "future co-operation (over Gibraltar) should be on the basis of reciprocity and full equality of rights."

The British have always taken the line that the reference to future co-operation means that equal rights are to be granted only after the Spanish have fulfilled their undertaking.

Señor Pérez Llorca said Madrid was not demanding immediate full equality of rights with people of Gibraltar for Spanish citizens, but felt that Spaniards should as a first step have at least the same rights as EEC citizens.

Earlier, in talks with all the 10 EEC foreign ministers, Señor Pérez Llorca was unable to get any clear promise of real progress in Spain's entry negotiations before the Community has completed its internal budgetary and agricultural reforms.

The Spanish argue that the entry negotiations and the internal reforms should go hand in hand, and Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Spanish Prime Minister, thought he had won President Mitterrand round to this view at a meeting last week in Paris. But today the French position hardened again.

## Community stays with Afghan plan

From Our Own Correspondent  
Brussels, July 13

European Community foreign ministers agreed here today to continue to promote their proposals for an international conference on Afghanistan despite the hostile response from the Soviet Union.

They decided not to make any changes now in the proposal to meet Soviet objections. But British sources said that amendments might be considered if the Russians showed that they were prepared to talk about a solution.

The Ten said in a statement that they "strongly believed that the approach outlined in the proposal represents a logical, realistic and constructive attempt to resolve an international problem which remains an important cause of tension and human suffering."

They said there had been favourable reactions from a significant number of countries and the response of others was awaited.

If the EEC's proposal for a two-stage conference is to be taken any further, it is unlikely to be before September when Lord Carrington, the EEC president, will meet Mr. Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, in New York during the United Nations General Assembly session.

## 10,000 ton hashish harvest

## Lebanon's potent whiff of wealth

From Robert Fisk, Baalbek, July 13

The dark green fields now run the length of the upper Bekaa valley, from Hermel 70 miles down to Deir Zelnoun south of Baalbek, a strip of foliage that clings to the foothills of Mount Lebanon and now even runs parallel to the old straight road that the Romans built up to the temples of the Heliopolitan Triad.

The plants look innocent enough, perhaps. Sit high with short branches of small, spiky flowers rather like sleepy cactus trees. A battery of Syrian Sam 6 rockets flaunts its power beside one such field along the Beirut highway. But the plants have a potency all of their own.

For Lebanon's hashish farmers have extended their fields this year, planting their seeds further south than ever before, brazenly spreading their pastures beside the main roads of the Bekaa without even bothering to lay down an innocuous potato patch between the highway and their wealth-producing crop.

In Baalbek they tell you that this year will produce a record crop. They say that every year, and every year, there is no doubt that they are right.

No one can be certain how big that crop really is. The 10 big farming families around Baalbek, however, are nothing but hashish, of course, and has a couple of privately owned tanks to defend its fields—

reckon that an estimated production of 10,000 tonnes is on the safe side. Indeed, one report has suggested that as much as 30 per cent of Lebanon's foreign currency earnings are in some way related to hashish exports.

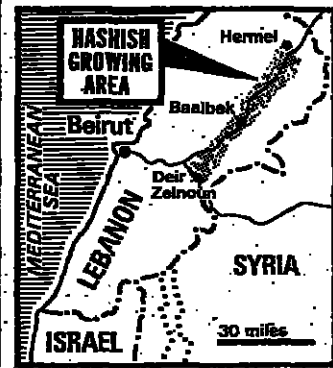
The farmers like to remain as anonymous as to moonlight young men who have already visited Baalbek this year to sample the crop for their prospective purchasers. "The buyers are always very polite,"

as a farmer's son says. "They are well dressed and they know what they are looking for. They rub their fingers on the plants and smell their hands after."

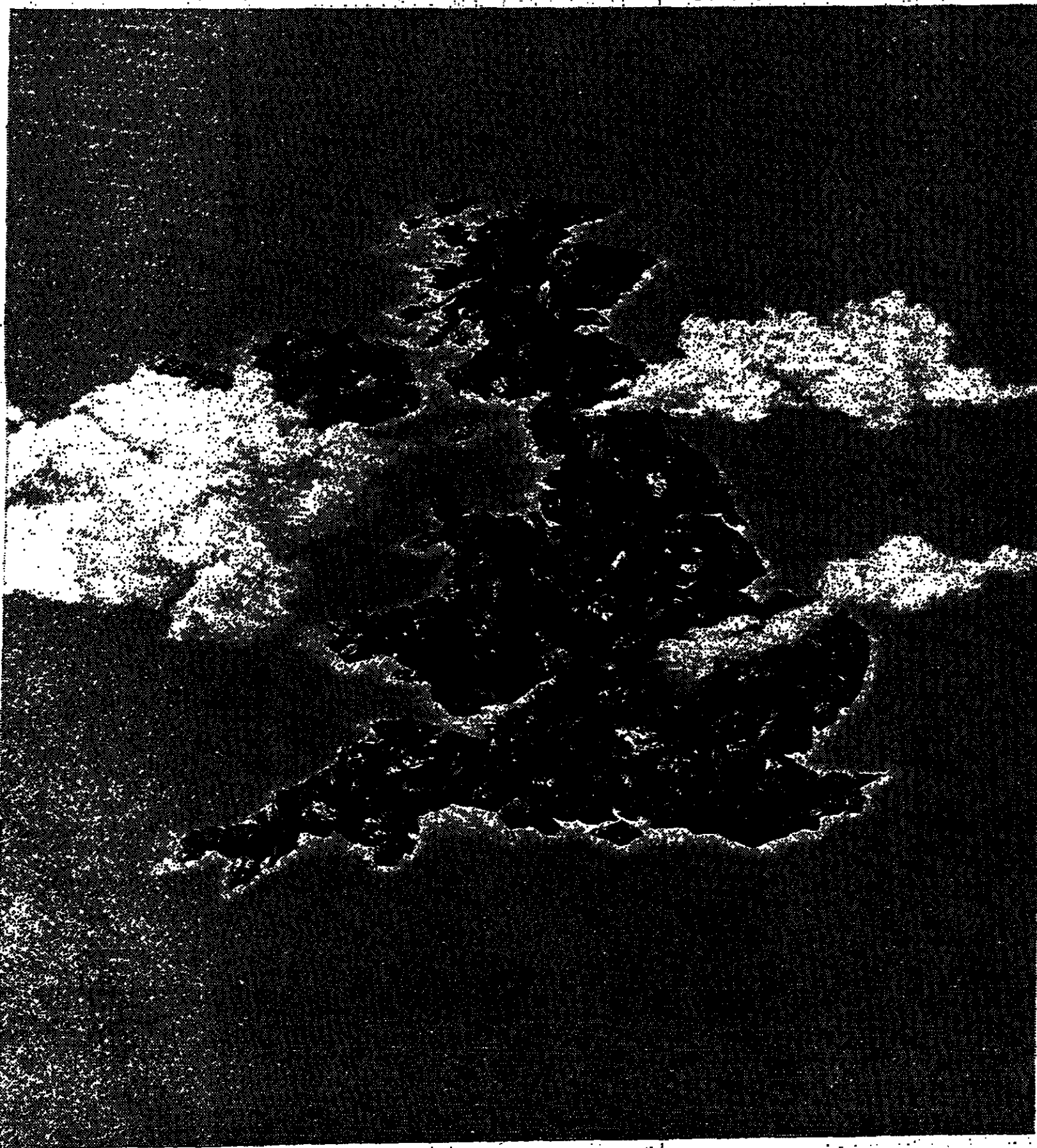
But exporting hashish still seems easy. At Beirut international airport, customs officials dutifully search travellers' suitcases for hashish but hundreds of tonnes of the stuff leave Lebanon by boat every year.

The Egyptians provide one of Lebanon's largest markets. One young man in a Baalbek café, offering generous and free samples to all comers, remarked cynically: "If you get arrested in Lebanon for possession of hashish, it's not because you've been caught. It's because you haven't paid."

And travelling through the rich, dark hashish fields of the Bekaa, put with Lebanese police and troops regularly drive, it is a little difficult to believe that there is not just a bit of corruption somewhere in the body politic. Someone in Beirut must be aware of the 300 or so square miles of hashish-growing territory, with its sleepy growers and slow-moving horses.



# Coal: Britain's energy insurance.



Despite new discoveries like the North Sea, availability of oil for industrialised countries is certainly not going to increase, and will, in fact, diminish from now because of uncertainty about the Middle East—by far the biggest source of supply.

However, Britain has coal reserves which, based on present mining techniques and present levels of production, will last for at least another three hundred years; with the improvements in technology that will undoubtedly come during that time, the reserves will last very much longer.

### WHERE WILL YOUR COMPANY BE IN 300 YEARS TIME?

There are three words you can read in the newspapers almost any day of the week: Middle East crisis. We'll leave it to you to conjure up pictures of soaring prices, unreliable supplies and increasingly tight stock.

There is now no concrete argument for not installing coal-fired boiler equipment, particularly if your company is planning to be around for some time. Maybe even in 300 years time.

### COAL: BE PREPARED TO BE SURPRISED.

There have been some very impressive advances in boiler technology, combustion, as well as methods of coal and ash handling.

It's now possible to operate in excess of 80% thermal efficiency, which makes coal firing both very economic and competitive.

It can be completely automatic with the modern coal and ash handling equipment. This permits coal fired boiler houses to be light, airy and clean.

And it's very up-to-date: Over the years extensive research and development programmes have been carried out. The most recent development is fluidised bed combustion.

This technique provides higher heat release rates, which means boiler sizes, and therefore capital costs, may be reduced.

It also means that a wider range of coal can be burned and with combustion taking place at a temperature below the melting point of ash, boiler availability is greatly extended.

### COMPANIES THAT CAN SEE BEYOND THE NEXT 20 YEARS.

Many far sighted companies are using coal fired boilers already.

For example, John Sanders, Chief Engineer at Hotpoint, says "We are

experiencing fantastic savings whilst many around us are facing problems with other fuels. We selected coal as our main fuel because we had coal burning experience and we could see problems arising with other fuels."

Hotpoint have installed a completely new boiler house to provide space heating and process steam. The new boiler house and its four multi-fuel boilers are fired by coal. Hotpoint have found it to be economic, modern, efficient and spotlessly clean.

The four new GWB Vekos multi-fuel boilers burn weekly no more than 215/220 tonnes, compared with the four old boilers' 500 tonnes. And the whole system is virtually automatic.

### LET US TELL YOU MORE.

The wide range of coal fired boiler plant and equipment is designed to meet every conceivable need, from power generating requirements to small units in commercial buildings. In addition there is a nationwide network of coal distributors who are strategically situated to give advice and provide an efficient service to industry.

If you would like one of our fuel engineers to visit and give you free, expert advice, please contact the NCB Technical Service.

This will include information on the recent government grant scheme which provides up to 25% of the cost of switching from oil to coal-fired boilers.

It's worth contacting us now. So that you can help your company to live later.

Send to: The National Coal Board, Technical Service Branch, Marketing Dept., Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7EA.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

I would like some technical leaflets on modern industrial burning equipment ☐  
I would like one of your fuel engineers to visit my company. ☐  
We are considering installing new industrial coal fired plant. ☐  
Please tell me more about the Government grant scheme ☐

**NCB**

COAL-BRITAIN'S ENERGY INSURANCE



## Vatican is thought to be £17m in the red

From Peter Nichols  
Rome, July 13

The new Council of Cardinals established by the dying Pope to face the problems of the Vatican's finances ended its first meeting tonight after hearing a report on the "essential data regarding the budget of the Holy See".

So went the official description of an event which is the most important in administrative terms to face the Roman Church since the Pope was seriously wounded on May 13. The Vatican's financial worries, of various kinds, go back long before the death of Pope John Paul I.

The Pope summoned the whole Sacred College, which then numbered 123 cardinals, to the Vatican at the beginning of November 1979, to give him advice, above all, on the Vatican's financial situation.

The meeting attended by 120 cardinals was secret but historic because for the first time the Vatican made public the extent of its budget deficit which then amounted to £8.5m. Unofficially it is estimated that the deficit has doubled in the meantime.

Ironically, the 1979 meeting took place in the same month as the Pope's ill-fated journey to Turkey where his movements were closely supervised as a result of threats to kill him.

The measures were made by Mehmet Ali Agca who is now awaiting trial in a Rome prison for the May 13 attempt on the Pope's life which has left him hospital-bound.

In the meantime, not only has the deficit increased, the Vatican now faces the moral issue of having seen two of its leading lay financial advisers arrested.

The first was Signor Massimo Spada who was charged with offences concerning the export of capital. Then Signor Luigi Menzinger was arrested on the grounds of fraud and bankruptcy.

The Pope's illness in itself indirectly raises financial problems. The strength of his pontificate was the popular success of his travels and his public appearances.

Counts in terms of money because something on which the Vatican can count to cover a deficit or special expenditure remains the ancient institution of Peter's Pence.

This is a collection made every year throughout the Catholic world on the feast-day of St Peter and St Paul. The money goes directly to the Secretariat of State and is not accounted for in the normal budget.

The issue of Peter's Pence need not be strictly tied to the Pope's ability to resume his travels. But a sick Pope has lost the public eye and his doctors are unlikely to attract contributions like a personality who captures the public imagination.

Reports today from Mexico City that the Pope has declined an invitation to re-visit the shrine of Guadalupe, the most important Latin American centre of popular Marian devotion, is taken as meaning that journeys for this year can be discounted.

The 11 cardinals at today's meeting (there were four absentees) under the chairmanship of Cardinal Casaroli, the Secretary of State, are all non-Italians with the exception of their chairman and resident archbishops.

They are supposed not only to test the present state of the budget but also put forward proposals gathered from the hierarchy throughout the world on how to deal with the question.

The official statement is strictly correct in insisting that they were given data only on the regular budget they will have missed more than just the sum collected in Peter's Pence.

## Israel's weapons policy clashes with Washington

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, July 13

Wide differences of opinion between the American and Israeli Governments over the conditions which should govern Israel's use of its American-supplied weapons emerged during a meeting today between Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, and Mr Robert McFarlane, a senior State Department official.

The meeting was called to discuss ways in which the governments could reach an agreement which would allow America to lift the temporary suspension imposed last month on the delivery of four F16 fighters, one of the types of jet used in the raid on the Baghdad nuclear reactor.

The Israeli delegation, which also included Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, is understood to have reiterated its strongly held view that all Israeli military operations recently undertaken outside its territory were legitimate acts of self-defence.

Before the meeting began, senior Israeli officials emphasized that Israel would refuse to give any new commitment to limit its use of American-supplied weapons, or to consult with America prior to using them.

Mr Begin said afterwards that the agreement was necessary for the Americans, and not for the Israelis. Both sides had argued about the matter, he added, and the fact that there was no agreed text meant that no agreement had yet been reached.

The extent of the differences between the two governments surprised some diplomatic observers, especially as the Americans were thought to be anxious to resolve the issue of the suspended F16s before the dispatch of a further shipment later this month.

After the failure to find a formula, both sides agreed to hold further talks. The Israeli delegation was also expected to ask Mr McFarlane to tell Washington of Israel's anxiety to see a quick resumption of the stalled talks on Palestinian autonomy.

Earlier, Mr Philip Habib, America's special envoy, left for Saudi Arabia on the latest stage of his mission to try to find a comprehensive solution to the crisis. A spokesman is understood to have presented Israel with the outline of a complex four-nation plan to end the continuing violence in the country, and strengthen the position of the Lebanese Government.

Only part of the plan is related to the withdrawal of the Syrian missile batteries stationed in the Bekaa Valley. For the Israeli Government this remains the key issue and officials are sceptical about the chances of America achieving the wider solution it is looking for.

But Mr Begin has deliberately refrained from imposing any deadline on the Habib mission, although it was emphasized again last night that he cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely.

Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian Liberation Organization leader, said today that Israel has an atomic arsenal of 23 to 25 months supply designed to strike all the Arab capitals, according to a report by the Iraqi news agency, INA, monitored here.

Mr Arafat, who was speaking in Baghdad, said he had precise information about the atomic capacity of Israel, the agency said. He was in the Iraqi capital for the opening session of a conference on the Israeli bombing of the Iraqi nuclear installation in Tammuz.

He accused the United States of having a role in the attack saying that Washington had sent specialists to supervise the Israeli preparations in the Negev desert. —AP.

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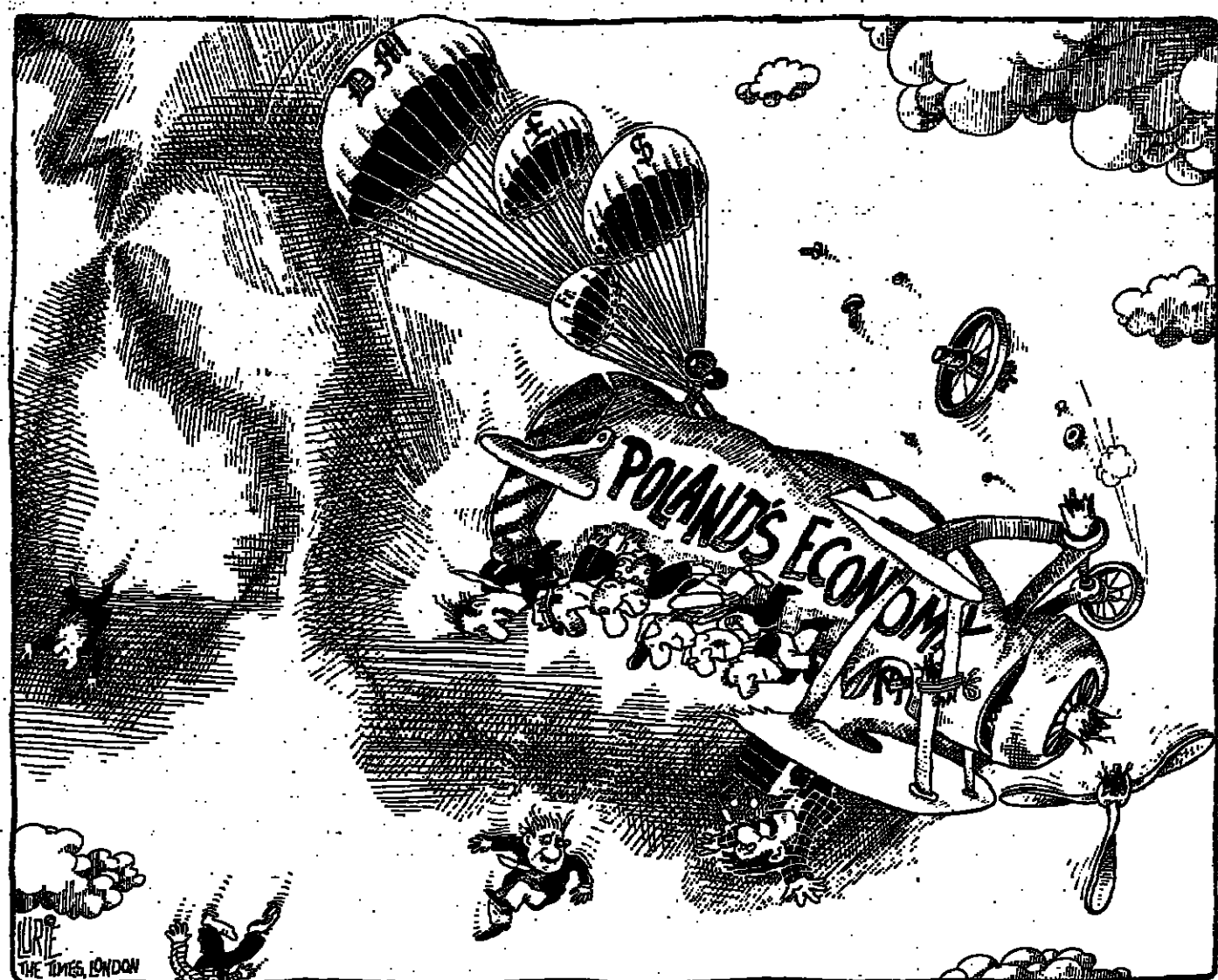
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"Welcome to the Polish Communist Congress!"

## Moscow hedges its bets

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow, July 13

Mr Viktor Grishin, a member of the Soviet Politburo and head of the Moscow city party organization, flew to Warsaw today at the head of the Soviet delegation to the Polish party congress that opens tomorrow.

The decision to send the 66-year-old rather colourless figure to the crucial meeting is seen here as a sign that the Russians intend to treat the congress as though it were a normal gathering of a fraternal party while reserving judgment on its outcome.

Mr Grishin appears to be a compromise choice for both the Russians and the Poles. Though sometimes tipped as a possible successor to President Brezhnev, he is not one of the leading figures in the Politburo, and his role is to place in Europe the Soviet Union's foreign policy.

On the other hand, he has made a number of trips to Eastern Europe and in protocol terms could appropriately head the Soviet delegation. He is senior enough for the Poles not to feel deliberately snubbed, but not too closely identified with Soviet ideology or foreign policy.

One of the more visible members of the leadership, such as Mr Mikhail Suslov, the hardline ideologue, or Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister—both of whom have visited Warsaw this year—gone to Warsaw, the Poles would have felt the Russians were trying to dominate the congress.

In the past week the Russians have kept surprisingly quiet about the preparations for a meeting as crucial for them as it is for the Poles. Pravda carried no news about the congress today, and apart from an ambiguously worded television report over the weekend there has been virtually no other dispatch.

This is most unusual, and a clear sign that Moscow would not sure how things will turn out. The Russians made it clear some months ago that they wanted the Poles to postpone the congress, which they fear will put the seal of party approval on the chaotic and removals of the past turbulent year.

By keeping quiet now, playing down the seriousness of the strikes by Polish dock workers and the resulting economic problems, the Russians are hedging their bets.

Until three weeks ago the Soviet press described the situation in Poland in ever more threatening terms, culminating in the warning sent to the Polish party by the Soviet Party's Central Committee.

However, Mr Gromyko's recent visit to Warsaw seems to have defused the situation at least on the surface. The press has dropped its threats, and voiced criticism obliquely in dispatches from other East European capitals.

The Russians have probably been gratified that many of the conservatives in the Polish leadership were re-elected as delegates, and now see no alternative to letting the congress go ahead in the hope that it will not take any decisions too hard for the Russians to swallow.

is having to reduce imports and exports because South Africa has said it can handle only a limited amount of Zimbabwean traffic because of its own difficulties coping with its own.

The Zimbabwean Government announced 10 days ago that supplies of diesel, the country's main fuel, had had to be cut by a fifth. The shortage is expected to last for at least two months and may curtail transport of maize and other crops now being harvested.

## Poland's economic crisis In search of speed and wisdom

From Michael Binyon  
Warsaw, July 13

The downward spiral leading Poland's economy towards catastrophe has accelerated in recent months. Getting through the party congress which begins tomorrow is a necessary step in arresting this progressive deterioration, although the congress is not itself likely to bring concrete economic measures.

Mr Stanislaw Kanis, the party leader, may have used the four months since the originally scheduled date of the congress to forestall the disintegration of the party at the cost of permitting complete economic collapse. Political uncertainties and the economic management inherited from the Gierk regime have inhibited any economic initiatives. The party congress may finally enable the authorities to break through this inertia and immobilism which have hampered their dealings with Solidarity.

Western bankers and the population. They will have to move quickly and wisely, with broad-based support, if whatever political configuration emerges from the congress is to survive the economic disaster.

The scale of this disaster was clear from Prime Minister Jaruzelski's speech to the Sejm on June 12 and has been confirmed by data since then. The national income fell 2 per cent in 1979 and 4 per cent more in 1980, a further decline on the order of 15 per cent, is feared for 1981. Industrial production in the first four months of this year was 10 per cent below the same period in 1980, but 18 per cent down in May. The corresponding figures for coal output show reductions of 20 per cent and 28 per cent respectively.

Projections indicate that 31 million tons in 1980 to less than 10 million tons in 1981.

The economy manifests two fundamental imbalances: on the internal market for consumer goods and on external markets with Eastern and Western trading partners. Declines in production and imports have been accompanied by a 23 per cent rise in the wage bill for January-May over that period a year ago. The inflationary gap has therefore widened, despite a 20 per cent reduction in investment expenditures. It is estimated that the value of supplies becoming available to households is only 70 per cent of the flow of incomes they would like to spend.

Falling exports and empty shops

It is still politically almost impossible to raise consumer prices, however. So people stock up whenever they find anything to buy. The shops are empty, and the rationing which now covers meat, butter, flour, rice and sugar is endangered by inability to satisfy the prescribed ration quantities.

Exports are down 18 per cent overall for January-May. The drop in revenues and the burden of repayments on the \$25,000 convertible currency debt (stopped at the end of March) and interest charges (continuing) have cut imports from the West by 20 per cent for the five months, in comparison with the same period in 1980; the fall for May was 29 per cent.

Meanwhile the socialist countries, which had actually increased their exports to Poland through April, have finally responded to the strains which Poland's failure to meet export obligations has imposed on their own economies: Poland's imports from them fell by 12 per cent in May. These reductions in imported supplies of raw materials, intermediate goods, spare parts and components have created insurmountable bottlenecks in production, which then generate further shortages, cuts in export supplies, and so on: the "bottleneck multiplier" at work.

The system of distribution of consumer goods and supplies to industry is totally disorganized. The incentive to work is sapped by the excess demand—one must take time off to queue, and even then it is impossible to spend one's income. To this must be added the reduction in hours brought by a shorter working week, which would account for half the fall in industrial output. But even when they are there, workers are demoralized when they see capacity reduced by shortages of materials or energy.

The immediate priorities are clear: increase coal production, increase agricultural output, collect and stock without losses all of a fairly promising harvest, and stop the fall in output and spreading paralysis of the productive apparatus.

In the medium term, the authorities must decide what to do about workers made unemployed by the closure of plants which produce little while still using energy and materials. They must also undertake a thoroughgoing reform of the economic system, in order to save towards Hungarian-style market socialism with some role, as yet undetermined, for workers' councils and self-management, side by side with Solidarity. It is equally unclear how far the existing market disequilibrium must be eased before markets can operate without immediately giving way to a violent open inflation.

## Poland's economic crisis In search of speed and wisdom

From Michael Binyon  
Warsaw, July 13

The downward spiral leading Poland's economy towards catastrophe has accelerated in recent months. Getting through the party congress which begins tomorrow is a necessary step in arresting this progressive deterioration, although the congress is not itself likely to bring concrete economic measures.

Mr Stanislaw Kanis, the party leader, may have used the four months since the originally scheduled date of the congress to forestall the disintegration of the party at the cost of permitting complete economic collapse. Political uncertainties and the economic management inherited from the Gierk regime have inhibited any economic initiatives. The party congress may finally enable the authorities to break through this inertia and immobilism which have hampered their dealings with Solidarity.

Western bankers and the population. They will have to move quickly and wisely, with broad-based support, if whatever political configuration emerges from the congress is to survive the economic disaster.

The scale of this disaster was clear from Prime Minister Jaruzelski's speech to the Sejm on June 12 and has been confirmed by data since then. The national income fell 2 per cent in 1979 and 4 per cent more in 1980, a further decline on the order of 15 per cent, is feared for 1981. Industrial production in the first four months of this year was 10 per cent below the same period in 1980, but 18 per cent down in May. The corresponding figures for coal output show reductions of 20 per cent and 28 per cent respectively.

Projections indicate that 31 million tons in 1980 to less than 10 million tons in 1981.

The economy manifests two fundamental imbalances: on the internal market for consumer goods and on external markets with Eastern and Western trading partners. Declines in production and imports have been accompanied by a 23 per cent rise in the wage bill for January-May over that period a year ago. The inflationary gap has therefore widened, despite a 20 per cent reduction in investment expenditures. It is estimated that the value of supplies becoming available to households is only 70 per cent of the flow of incomes they would like to spend.

Falling exports and empty shops

It is still politically almost impossible to raise consumer prices, however. So people stock up whenever they find anything to buy. The shops are empty, and the rationing which now covers meat, butter, flour, rice and sugar is endangered by inability to satisfy the prescribed ration quantities.

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## IN BRIEF

### Oil chief and wife shot dead

New York.—The president of the Atlantic Richfield company, which is about to sell The Observer, has been shot dead along with his wife at their home in Dallas, Texas. Their 14-year-old son David is being held in connexion with the killings.

Mr William Keeler, aged 53 and his 49-year-old wife Anita were found by their daughter, Barbara, when she arrived for lunch. Mr Keeler, president of Arco Oil and Gas Company was already dead. Mrs Keeler, lying in a pool of blood, was alleged to have said weakly: "David, David, David did it". She died in hospital a few hours later.

Their son had called at the police station three miles away to report the shootings. He was taken to a juvenile detention centre where he spent the night.

### Yachtsman on world trip

Tokyo, July 13.—A British woman and her Japanese husband set sail today with their four-year-old daughter and two Japanese crewmen, on a round-the-world voyage expected to last four years.

Mr Hiroaki Nagae, aged 33, his wife, Jennifer, and their daughter Erika set off in their handcrafted yacht from Tokyo, a central Japanese port, in a 44ft yacht named after the girl. Their first stop is to be Vancouver.—AP.

### Naples violence

Rome.—The death of Domenico Peluso, aged 41, in a Naples hospital, the count of killings in and around the city to 103 since the beginning of the year. Most of the murders are ascribed to the Camorra, an organization similar to the Sicilian Mafia.

### Lovely prize

Athens.—The Greek International of Love organization, which preaches love as a means of solving world problems, has announced that its £30,000 international love prize will go to Mr Lech, Wales, the Polish Solidarity leader. The prize is financed from an annual donation by an anonymous Greek businessman.

### Cholera victims

Amman.—More than 100 new cases of cholera have been officially diagnosed in Jordan during the past 24 hours, bringing the total to 47. Four people are said to have died of cholera since the epidemic broke out in July.

### Saudis wooed

Jiddah.—The Philippine Government has asked Saudi Arabia to help mediate in the dispute between Manila and leaders of the five million Muslims in the southern Philippines in the Riyadh-based Al Jazirah paper said.

### Popular premier

Paris.—M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister is currently the most popular politician in France, according to an opinion poll published in the Le Quotidien. His popularity rating is 8 per cent ahead of President Mitterrand.

### Austrian appeal

Vienna.—Austria has launched another appeal to the United States for help to cope with the problem of Polish refugees. A spokesman said that Austria had once complied with an American request to admit refugees from Vietnam and now expected a similar positive response from Washington.

### Housing sit-in

Madrid.—Several hundred people have been staging a sit-in in a Madrid church, claiming to be victims of a giant housing swindle. The protesters said that 3,000 families had signed contracts for flats in the 1970s, but they had never been built.

### Iraq shelters

Stockholm.—The Iraqi Government has ordered about 25,000 women of underground shelters from a Swedish company. They would be used by the civilian population for various activities, the company said.

### Rail segregation

Johannesburg.—Apartheid on South African passenger trains is to continue. A railways spokesman denied reports that separate facilities for whites and blacks would be stopped from August 1.

### 1,200 homeless

Seoul, July 13.—At least 10 people were feared dead and more than 1,200 were made homeless by weekend floods in the southern part of South Korea.

سكوا من الأصل



## Paris and Bonn to press US on dollar rate

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, July 13

President Mitterrand of France and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, agreed today to entreat President Reagan to curb the fluctuations of the dollar exchange rate at the economic summit in Ottawa next week.

The Chancellor said he and the French President believed that a steady of the dollar rate was urgently desirable. The two would also seek to impress upon the United States President the harm the high American interest rate policy was doing to European economies.

Mitterrand and the Chancellor also agreed to seek a common approach to the reform of the EEC budget and agriculture policies and to maintain the European Monetary System.

It was the first of the six-monthly Franco-German consultations since President Mitterrand came to power. Herr Kurt Beckers, the West German spokesman, told journalists afterwards that the talks had been very successful; much more so than many people expected, particularly in France.

The atmosphere was formal — "Herr President" and "Monsieur Le Chancelier", whereas Herr Schmidt and M. Giscard d'Estaing, the former president, had been on first-name terms — but at the same time extremely friendly, Herr Becker said.

While they are unlikely to forge the close friendship that existed between the Chancellor and M. Mitterrand's predecessor, both were evidently anxious to develop an excellent personal relationship.

The decision that the Chancellor should go privately to Paris in the autumn was an expression "of the specially friendly relationship which is developing, or rather is continuing to develop" between the two leaders.

At their joint press conference at the end of the meetings President Mitterrand asked the media to transmit his special greetings to the West German people.

The Franco-German relationship was a privileged friendship — in an interview last week he had dismissed the concept of a Paris-Bonn axis — the friendship was not only a cornerstone, a pillar of the European Community, but was of increasing significance in Western politics.

Most of the conference time was devoted to the Ottawa summit, East-West relations, and European security. The Chancellor received, as expected, valuable support from President Mitterrand for his policy of a military balance of power, although some shades of difference remained.

Herr Becker summed it up, saying that M. Mitterrand had no objections to the Chancellor pressing for the earliest possible East-West negotiations to reduce the number of nuclear missiles. But he put more emphasis on negotiating from a position of strength and on a speedy stationing of Western missiles to balance the Soviet S.S. 20 and Bc-10 bombers.

"If anything," he said, "the position of France is tougher than West Germany's." It remains to be seen, however, whether the French President's support will impress the large anti-missile movement in Herr Schmidt's Social Democrat Party. The reaction so far is clear to incredulity, that a Socialist like M. Mitterrand should not share their more pacifist views.

In the last big preparatory talks before the summit, the two leaders agreed that the meeting should show Western unity. They were anxious to avoid the impression of a confrontation with the United States on the dollar. Herr Schmidt urged all participants to resist the temptation to pursue nationalistic and egoistic trade, monetary and credit policies.

President Mitterrand explained his economic policies to the Chancellor and when he said later that there were delicate questions to be discussed further he was believed to be referring to the widely differing views on how to combat inflation and unemployment.

The Chancellor expressed understanding for the priority given by President Mitterrand to fighting unemployment, but pointed out that for Bonn the first aim was defeating inflation.

The French President supported the West German case for a limit to net payments by member countries into the EEC budget and agreed with his host that the rate of contribution to the Community should not exceed the present one per cent of value-added tax.

They were also anxious that the increase in spending on agriculture should be slower than the increase in its income.

M. Mitterrand advocated a stronger EEC social policy, which should be taken into account in the coming reforms. But the French doubted whether these could be completed in time for the 1982 budget, while the West Germans consider this necessary.

The two leaders agreed that the proposal by Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, for a conference on Afghanistan should be developed and if possible discussed with the Soviet Union again, as Herr Becker said since, as Herr Becker said, Moscow did not close all doors to it.

## Thorn hope for common strategy on world poor

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, July 13

Mr. Gaston Thorn, President of the European Commission, is hopeful that the Ottawa summit can devise a common strategy towards the Third World.

He told a luncheon at the National Press Club that he saw no reason why there should be continued confusion with the United States over a common approach to North-South relations.

He said Europe had different relations with the Third World to those held by the United States. Some European countries were less committed to the free market approach than America.

North-South relations would be one of the chief topics at Ottawa, Mr. Thorn said, but economic matters would also play an important part.

The Reagan Administration has constantly fought shy of giving any indication that it would shift its stance on help for the Third World.

To aid programmes were being cut back and officials had emphasized that the Administration believed the best way of improving the economies of less-developed countries was to provide incentives for them to build up their own private enterprise businesses.

Asked about international economics Mr. Thorn said he did not blame the United States for economic recession in Europe. "I wish the United States wholehearted success in its policies," he said. "But quickly please, because we cannot take the medicine too long."



Caught up in his trade: Justo Benitez is sent flying in the Pamplona bull ring but he escaped a goring and went on to kill the bull.

## Malaysia expels Soviet diplomats

From M. G. G. Pillai, Kuala Lumpur, July 13

The Malaysian Government today expelled three Soviet diplomats for espionage, and said a close relationship with the next prime minister was a KGB agent.

The diplomats, Mr. V. P. Romanov, second secretary, Mr. G. I. Stepanov, first secretary and Mr. Z. L. Khaidouline, of the economic section, were given 24 hours to leave, after they had been identified as KGB agents by Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie, the Home Minister.

A Home Ministry statement said the men recruited by Mr. Siddiq Muhammad Ghouse, political secretary for seven years to Datuk Sri Mahathir Muhammad.

Mr. Siddiq was detained this morning. Equipment allegedly recovered. He had earlier resigned as secretary to Datuk Sri Mahathir, who will be sworn in as Prime Minister on Wednesday.

Tan Sri Ghazali said Malaysian security agents had linked Mr. Siddiq with Mr. Romanov since early 1979, and that both Daruk Hussein Onn, the Prime Minister, and Datuk Sri Mahathir had been kept informed of developments.

The Foreign Ministry summoned the Soviet chargé d'affaires to tell him of the expulsion order. The three men left tonight.

The last time the Soviet Union was involved in espionage activities identified by the Malaysians was in 1976 when two close aides of the former Prime Minister, the late Tun Abdul Razak, were detained on charges similar to that which Mr. Siddiq faces now. But on that occasion the Soviet officials implicated were not named.

## America grants visas for Springboks team

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, July 13

The Springboks rugby team adopted the attitude that if they were to be kicked out and to have their final practice before embarking on the controversial tour of New Zealand. Although the team is due in Auckland on Sunday no details are known about when it will depart and what route it will take.

Trade union opposition to the tour will prevent Air New Zealand flying the team to Auckland from Sydney should the tourists arrive there from Johannesburg aboard a South African Airways flight — the most direct way.

Professor Johan Claassen, the tour manager, said today he would be willing to meet protesters and critics of the tour, depending on what issues they wanted to raise.

If they want to speak to me, then I'll speak to them," he said. "But it all depends on the subject and the issues they want to raise. I won't allow my players to get involved in politics and I'll go so far as to say that I will not allow myself to get involved in politics. That's not my job."

Professor Claassen, who went as Springbok coach to Australia in 1971 on a tour that was also harassed by demonstrators, said he would draw on that experience to handle whatever problems arise in New Zealand.

"One must admit that protesters, demos, pickets — call them what you will — must have a detrimental effect," he said, "but there is also a positive side to the issue. It pulls us together as a team and there is more cohesion. They force us to keep together all the time."

During the 1969-70 tour of Britain, the South Africans adopted the attitude that if they ignored the demonstrators they would go away. They did not and Professor Claassen said today: "I wasn't there but I wouldn't adopt that attitude."

He said he would not give the players instructions on how to behave when surrounded by demonstrators but would advise them on what their attitude should be.

Meanwhile, it was announced today that visas valid for the United States have been authorized for the 30 players and officials in the tour party. The team is due to visit the United States after the New Zealand tour ends on September 12, and play three matches.

But with the secrecy surrounding the team's departure it is beginning to look as though it might travel to New Zealand via the United States as well.

The British embassy in Pretoria is handling the team's New Zealand visas because New Zealand has no diplomatic representation in South Africa.

Wellington: With his government under criticism from Commonwealth countries for failing to intervene to stop the tour, Mr. Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, today expressed misgivings about the Commonwealth's future (W. P. Reeves writes).

When he was asked if he foresaw a situation where New Zealand would withdraw from the Commonwealth, he said: "No, I cannot. It was our Commonwealth long before it was the Commonwealth of some of these other countries."

New Zealand, he said, had stuck to the Glenageary Agreement in spirit.

# See how we respond.

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  - 2 Would EEC grants or loans be available for my new factory?
  - 3 I'm planning to expand my business. What types of finance are available?
  - 4 Should I review my will now that I'm running my own business?
  - 5 I'd like to stop paying my employees in cash. How do I pay through a bank?
  - 6 Are there advantages in asking for a loan in foreign currency rather than sterling?
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## Police fire tear gas at miners

From Our Correspondent, Johannesburg, July 13

Riot police fired tear gas today at thousands of black gold miners who went on a rampage of arson and looting over pay deductions.

Trouble started last night at the Anglo American Corporation's President Brand mine near Welkom, in the Orange Free State.

Nearly 7,500 miners from the mine's No. 1 and 2 shafts looted and set fire to dining halls and concession stores, and destroyed several vehicles.

Early today police were called in and used tear gas to disperse the rioters.

An Anglo American official said the trouble appeared to have been caused by misunderstanding over a new death benefit scheme, which is considered by the Chamber of Mines — the mine employers' organization — to be a big improvement.

It involves the compulsory deduction of a token 0.6 per cent of a miner's wages, and will entitle his family, if he dies at work, to the equivalent of two years' wages.

Previously, black miners paid into a voluntary death benefit scheme which entitled their dependants to an ex-gratia payment of 400 rand (about £235), and into a voluntary insurance policy for additional benefits.

The miners were still staying away from work this afternoon and a company spokesman said production from two shafts had been lost. Work at two other shafts was not affected.

Trouble was also reported to have spread to the nearby Harmony mine.

## China plans holidays to aid jobless

From David Bonavia, Peking, July 13

The Chinese Communist Party is considering introducing paid annual holidays for workers for the first time, in order to ease unemployment, the party journal Red Flag says.

At present workers have one day off a week and other days are festivals, though some are able to take a longer break over the Chinese New Year to visit relatives in distant parts of the country.

An extra 30 million jobs would have to be created by 1985, if full employment is to be achieved, the journal said. But not even the most optimistic officials in China believe that is possible.

Many factories are being closed, or converted to carry out new functions, under the policy of economic readjustment.

Experienced workers are being made redundant, on top of the annual flood of school leavers seeking jobs.

In some places the unemployment problem has led to demonstrations, sit-ins, and riots. This year 10 million people in the urban areas are "waiting for employment", the fashionable euphemism.

The problem has adversely affected productivity in industry, with unwanted or unqualified people being pushed into 30 factories so that they can draw wages.

None the less, with more than 50 per cent of its 200 million urban residents employed, China compared favourably with many other countries, the journal said.

## Socialists hope to put stamp on Bastille Day

From Charles Hangrove, Paris, July 13

President Mitterrand, like M. Giscard d'Estaing before him, wants to put a special stamp on the traditional July 14 celebrations, the first under a Socialist government since 1936.

To symbolize the birth of the "advanced liberal society", his predecessor had transferred the military parade from the Champs Elysees to the Place de la Bastille, where it all began 192 years ago.

The new socialist President has not dared do anything so iconoclastic, but has decreed that the festivities will be "decentralized, popular, and republican", in order to bring the nation and its army closer together.

The festivities are decentralized, because military parades took place this evening in the centres of all military regions, at Lille, Rennes, Bordeaux, Lyons, Metz and Marseilles — as many people as possible to attend them after their day's work (although many of the French have taken a very long weekend off, from Friday to Wednesday).

Dancing in the streets is a well-loved tradition of the Bastille Day celebrations, and there will be open air balls in Paris, some of which began this evening. The day will close with the equally traditional fireworks display.

Altogether it will be a July 14 pregnant with republican symbolism, designed to mark the break with the republican monarchy of M. Giscard.







## Part Two of Blind Eye to Murder by Tom Bower

'The trial of the commandant and forty-four of the staff of Belsen... was the first major set-piece war crimes trial and was intended not only to punish the guilty but also to show the German people what had been done in their name, and to provide them with an example of efficient and impartial justice. 'All three ambitions were to be frustrated: the trial immediately exposed the reasons for the eventual failure of the whole programme.'

Unlike the enormous and immediate press and newsreel coverage which followed the American liberation of Buchenwald, the British army kept journalists away from Belsen for some days after its discovery on April 15, 1945, by the 2nd Army.

At the Foreign Office Patrick Dean, then a legal adviser, soon suspected that the typhoid outbreak in the camp was not the real reason for denying access, because the journalists, like the troops, could be inoculated. To his shock, Guy Lambert, Assistant Under Secretary at the War Office, rejected his suggestion of press visits to the area, "and blandly denied that any war crimes had been committed at Belsen."

Worse still, because the British army lacked a war crimes group, both witnesses and criminals were allowed to slip away. Commenting on the situation to Dean, John Ward wrote, "The WO are a contrary-cursed department and I dare say Sir FB [Frederick Bovenschen] would go to pains to prove that there were no war crimes at Belsen to keep out inconvenient visitors." He suggested one way to overcome the War Office's "suspicious shut down at Belsen" would be to use the good services of Colonel Mocatta inside the War Office who is racially much interested [and might tweak Mr. Lambert's tail].

Lambert rejected all the criticisms. The Belsen victims, he told Dean, were not British nationals, therefore the British army was not responsible for detecting their murderers.

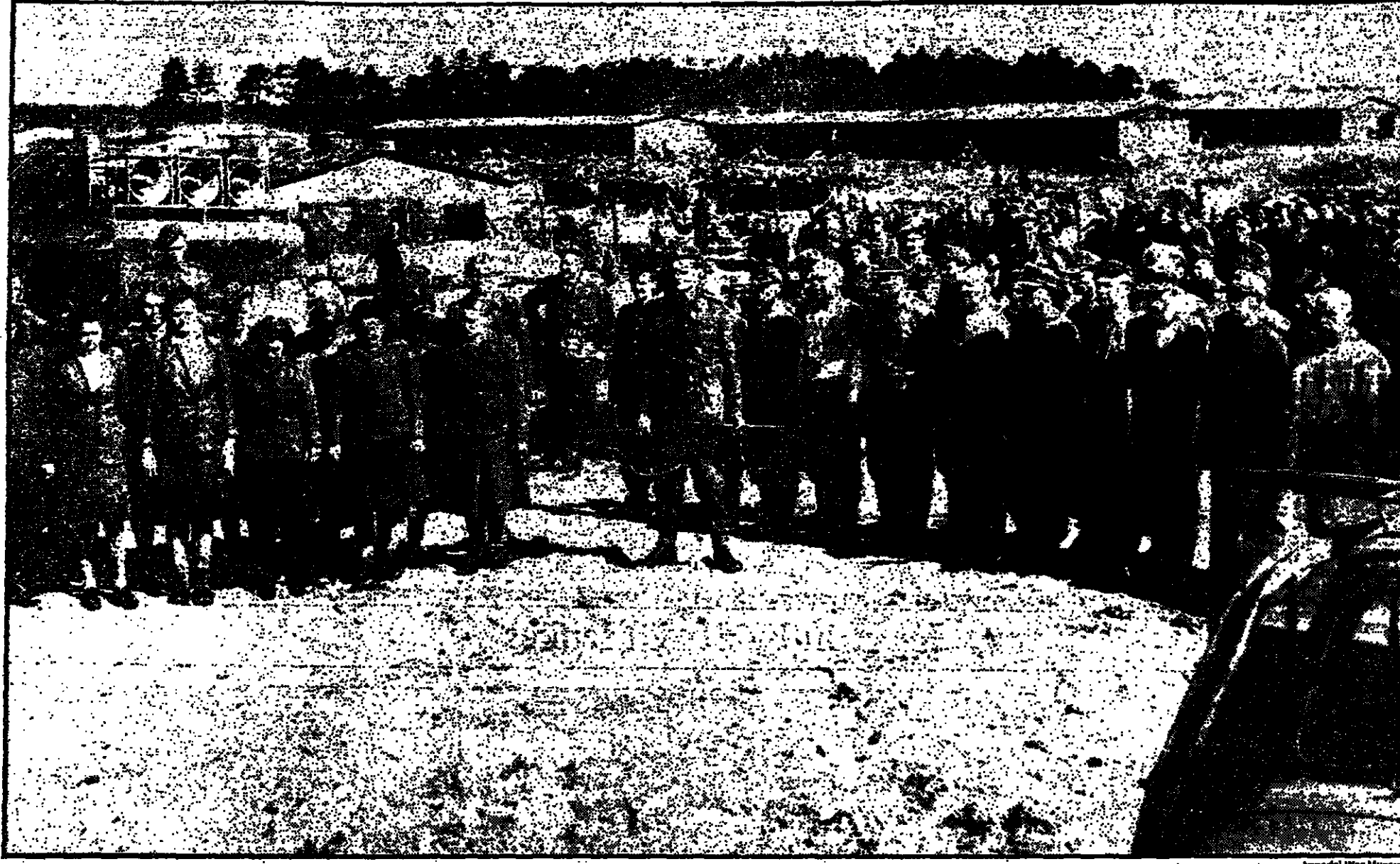
It was not, however, so easy for the military actually at Belsen to shrug off any responsibility. Faced with a death toll of at least 70,000 and the visible reality of a concentration camp, officers of the Judge Advocate General's department in Germany felt compelled to investigate and seek out those responsible for the horrors they had personally witnessed.

### Rapid action was needed

The drama and urgency of the situation was not, however, felt in London. Rather than wait months for Sir Henry MacGeagh's JAG department there to vet their statements, former inmates lost patience and drifted away. Often these were vital witnesses, but as Major-General Maurice Chilton, the deputy adjutant at Montgomery's headquarters, told MacGeagh, he was officially allowing them to leave rather than endure the inhumanity of waiting near the site of their misery.

In a final and desperate plea to be allowed to reduce the delays and delegate the decision-making to Germany, JAG cabled London: "There is a need for rapid action before there is any weakening of the present determination on the part of the public that war criminals be brought to justice."

In response, Viscount Bridgeman — who had been appointed head of a new division, AG3, of



April, 1945: Staff of Belsen concentration camp taken prisoner by the British 2nd Army, line up in front of the graves of their victims

the Judge Advocate General's department — called a meeting on August 2 to discuss how the obstacles could be removed. MacGeagh immediately attacked Bridgeman's initiative as "astonishing and ill-considered." Declaring that his department's procedures were sacrosanct, he announced that he was taking two weeks' leave and would discuss the matter further on his return.

The trial of the commandant and forty-four of the staff of Belsen finally began on September 17, 1945, at Lüneburg, in the British Zone of Germany. It was the first major set-piece war crimes trial and was intended not only to punish the guilty, but also to show the German people what had been done in their name, and to provide them with an example of efficient and impartial justice.

All three ambitions were to be frustrated: the trial immediately exposed the reasons for the eventual failure of the whole programme.

On JAG's instructions, Josef Kramer, the camp's commandant, and the 44 staff, were charged not with murder, but that they had failed to provide for the inmates "well-being" and had "ill-treated them — strange words for those who had seen the newsreel footage of bulldozers pushing emaciated corpses into mass graves.

But it was the pleas by the defence lawyers — all British officers — which caused the greatest offence. Using tactics which were credible at the Old Bailey, but which were tasteless after the revelations of the Nazi's genocide policies, the defence set out to prove that the witnesses, who were survivors of the Holocaust, were liars.

Aggressively they challenged and doubted their evidence, for example by probing whether the victim was male or female — a real problem when the inmate was emaciated and shaven — or to question whether the victim was murdered by a blow to the head or a punch in the stomach.

Worst of all were the closing statements of the defence lawyers — and in particular Major T. Winwood's representing Kramer. According to Winwood, Belsen's roll calls, which sometimes continued for twelve hours, while inmates died of exposure, exhaustion or systematic beatings, were "part of concentration camp life and it was the only way of being able to make out a strength for rations." About the beatings, Winwood said, "The internees had to be restrained" because food was scarce.

To explain the behaviour of Kramer, a man who had devoted his life since 1934 to the murder of innocents, Winwood said that his misfortune had been that he had dealt with "the dregs of the ghettos of Eastern Europe."

The outraged international protests which followed Winwood's speech were eclipsed by an even greater outburst of anger when the verdicts were announced — eleven sentenced to death and fifteen acquitted. According to the court, it was not a crime to be simply a member of the concentration camp's staff — there had to be indisputable evidence that the accused had actually harmed somebody.

Guy Lambert, like the rest of his colleagues, was in no way embarrassed by the strength of the international protest. "I am bound to say," he wrote, "that the Army Council is satisfied that the trial was carried out in the best tradition of British

justice." Ministers in the new Labour government were less satisfied. Clement Attlee, the Prime Minister, wrote to Jack Lawson, the Secretary of State for War, "I am concerned at the delays which have occurred with regard to the prosecution of war criminals, particularly in the Belsen trial. It is essential that in BAOR (British Army of the Rhine) ... the person on whom rests responsibility for the investigation of war crimes and the bringing to trial of their authors, should be officers with drive and energy, and that the high priority be accorded to war crimes matters should be fully understood."

Lawson seems to have remained unperturbed. Lambert and other officials having reassured him that these were just "teething troubles". Other Ministers were not so easily persuaded. Sir Hartley Shawcross, the Attorney General, and Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, were (unlike their predecessors), both determined that as many war criminals as possible should be prosecuted. Both realised that their immediate problem was Lawson — a timid and ineffectual trade unionist whom Attlee had appointed as reward for past services rather than because of any recognizable talent.

Shawcross decided to make his own private inquiries. From a friend returning from Germany he heard that while there were 38 Belsen-like concentration camps in the British zone alone, only three were being investigated; only 50 of the estimated 20,000 staff had been arrested.

His informant was mistaken. There were in fact 61 Belsen-like camps in the British Zone. It was indicative of the state of BAOR's war crimes organization and the JAG that forty-three of them had still not been discovered.

The wartime failure of the War Crimes Commission and the reluctance of the War Office to accept its new responsibilities seriously had left 21st Army Group without any organization

## Shawcross joins the manhunt

appointed to investigate war crimes. It was only after the discovery of Belsen that Montgomery's headquarters belatedly announced the formation of three war crimes investigation teams, each of four men. By then, the American army had already recruited over one hundred men, and they had a smaller population to cover.

### British given biggest job

The head of the new British War Crimes Group was charged with instituting the largest manhunt ever known, but Group Captain Tony Somerhough quickly discovered that BAOR headquarters had given his group the lowest priority for manpower and equipment. More than half his time was spent not in organising the hunt for war criminals, but in fighting to get more staff, transport, desks, typewriters and radios.

To Somerhough's anger, Major-General Maurice Chilton, BAOR headquarters insisted that extra staff could not be provided from Germany, but had to be specially sent by the War Office from Britain, where Chilton knew quite well there was no support for the whole business.

Indeed, at Bridgeman's August 2 meeting, intended to remove any obstacles to the war crimes programme, item 1(c) on the agenda — a request from BAOR for trained investigators — was not even discussed. Yet a most successful Anglo-American manhunt, codenamed "Project Paperclip", had just proved what could be achieved despite the chaos and confusion.

Three thousand handpicked specialists had been trained to find and capture 9,000 of Germany's top scientists and technologists. The "T-force" specialists had been given top priority classification, with authority to commandeer planes, ships, trains, motor transport, finance, even military units if their mission demanded it. They were supervised and directed to their targets by a

230-man Anglo-American mobile headquarters. Weeks before VE (Victory in Europe) Day, the specialists had been behind enemy lines and brought back not only the scientists, but even their families to interrogation centres. With them came a vast haul from their laboratories and examples of their work. It proved what could be achieved if there was commitment to a policy.

The absence of that commitment was what Shawcross was determined to remedy. With Attlee's agreement, he wrote to Lawson on October 10 that he intended to hold an inter-departmental meeting, to which Lawson himself was not invited.

Shawcross told his colleagues that the War Office's organization "is far too cumbersome and circuitous to achieve its purpose expeditiously." "The work," he wrote, "is in a way police work — I believe that over a year ago the War Crimes Commission itself recommended the establishment in Germany of some such organization, but I cannot find that anything was done."

Shawcross's letter was a direct criticism of Lambert, Bridgeman and Shapcott and when he met them two days later, he did not mince his words. The Cabinet, he said, was seriously concerned about the lack of progress. "There are tens of thousands of Germans responsible for millions of murders. We must set ourselves an absolute minimum of prosecuting at least 10 per cent of those criminals in the British Zone. That is about 2,000 people. I am setting as an irreducible minimum that we try 500 cases by 30 April 1946."

"To achieve that, personnel must be provided as a first priority. Montgomery must be told that it is his responsibility to achieve the 500 case target and to allocate the War Crimes Group the facilities and personnel he needs. JAG should set up six courts to sit simultaneously and if there is any shortage of lawyers, then disperse with lawyers."

"I also think," Shawcross told

Shapcott and MacGeagh, "that the whole operation, including JAG's work, should be centralized in Germany."

A week after the meeting, on 19 October, a cipher telegram was sent to the Commander of British forces in South-East Asia informing him of the 500 case target in his area of command. No telegram went to BAOR. Instead, George Bradshaw, Bridgeman's deputy, went to Bad Oeynhausen in person, taking with him a copy of the minutes of the 12 October meeting.

The result of Bradshaw's mission was curious, to say the least. He had to report to Bridgeman that, in effect, BAOR refused to obey the Cabinet's instructions. Montgomery's headquarters disputed the notion that it was their responsibility to investigate crimes against non-British nationals, since they had not been provided with the necessary additional staff. Nor were they prepared to ask Montgomery to make them available. They rejected outright Shawcross's suggestion that they should disperse with lawyers. In general, BAOR told Bradshaw, there were too many other priorities. On November 3 Bradshaw confirmed the Cabinet's instruction in Cipher 83002 to Bad Oeynhausen. Or at least he apparently did so. In fact the wording of the telegram subtly, but significantly, changed the effect of those orders.

Shawcross had made it perfectly clear at the meeting. He had set a target of 500 cases involving at least 2,000 individuals. But while paragraph one of Bradshaw's telegram read, "The government have decided that early trial of German minor war criminals will be treated as matter of great urgency," paragraph three read, "Target for BAOR is minimum five hundred repeat five hundred individuals will be tried for war crimes by 30 April 1946."

Paragraph five read, "C in C. will be responsible for ensuring the completion of their target number of trials within the stated time limit." Looking at the tipper, it is clear that the word "trials" had been added after the whole cipher had been typed, clearly as an alternative word to "cases".

Although the telegram was given a dispatch number by the War Office, it was allegedly never received by Chilton, to whom it was addressed. But the ensuing dispute about its non-arrival was irrelevant because Bradshaw had after all personally told him of Shawcross's target. Nevertheless, the alleged non-arrival was used as a further excuse for inaction, which was in turn calmly ignored by Bridgeman.

On December 14 Shawcross wrote again to Lawson complaining that only ten cases had so far been tried. "The 500 case target," he wrote, "probably only touches the fringe of the problem." But the rebuke had no effect. Lawson was unable or unwilling to force his department into action.

By the first week of January 1946, only 20 cases involving 91 criminals had been tried, the backlog had considerably increased and Montgomery had still not accepted responsibility

for trying even 500 individuals by the April 30 deadline. Investigations into no fewer than 39 concentration camps had been summarily ended because, according to Bridgeman, "No evidence is at present held to justify investigation."

Shawcross wrote to Attlee on January 17: "The general position seems to be very far from satisfactory. At the present rate the trial of war criminals will go on until the crack of doom. The information I have leaves no doubt that the Commands have completely failed to treat this matter as one of the highest priority, or indeed of any urgency at all."

It was the closest anyone came to putting the blame where it lay, on Montgomery who, like most senior officers, was opposed to the whole idea of war crimes trials and was unprepared to give them any support.

His attitude was shared by his successors, Air Marshal Sir Sholto Douglas and General Brian Robertson. Both, towards the end of 1946, were determined to bring the trials to an end as fast as possible, although even the modified 500 people target was to be met only at the end of the year. By then a further 447 cases involving 1,341 people were ready for trial, but not one of the accused had been arrested.

In contrast, 4,200 men and women were being held as suspected war criminals, but lack of proper identification or proper evidence prevented them being brought to trial. Progress, according to Shawcross, was "disappointing." The only "progress" by the end of the year seems to have been the unceremonious closure of AG3; in the view of Brigadier Henry Shapcott of the JAG's department, the removal of this intended co-ordinating body would lead to "smoother running."

Robertson's initial attempt in autumn 1946 to get some commitment for a target date to end the trials was immediately rebuffed by Shawcross and Bevin, but their determined commitment was undermined by the Army in Germany.

It is one of the peculiarities of that postwar period that Allied officers felt an admiration for their German counterparts regardless of their criminal and unilitary activities, so long as the victims were not British or American. According to Montgomery's deputy, General Sir Alec Bishop, "I felt they had just obeyed orders. ... I felt, 'suppose we had lost the war'."

That dissatisfaction was heightened by rumours, some true, of mishaps at the executions of convicted war criminals. But it was the trial of Field Marshal Kesselring in April 1947 which intensified the anger. Kesselring was accused of ordering the execution of 335 Italians in Rome in March 1944 as a reprisal for the assassination of 33 German policemen.

He had actually signed a confession, and a British court in Venice sentenced him to death. Regarded as the merits of the case, British officers were outraged that someone of such high rank should be held to account for the consequences of his position. Giving their protest credibility, even Churchill protested. He wrote to Attlee, "The process of killing the leaders of the defeated enemy has now exhausted any usefulness it may have had." Kesselring was reprieved.

### Thousands of suspects freed

Sympathy for the German generals, and opposition to the trials continued to increase in direct proportion to the growing antagonism towards the Russians. Increasingly, Robertson felt that the trials were counterproductive to winning German support against the communists.

His first move was to use the excuse of a shortage of supplies and the cold winter to order Somerhough to reduce the number of suspects held as quickly and as drastically as possible. "Operation Flea-combe" resulted in 2,500 suspects being released within eight weeks. In June 1947, the conditions for extradition of suspected war criminals from the British Zone for trial elsewhere were made more stringent.

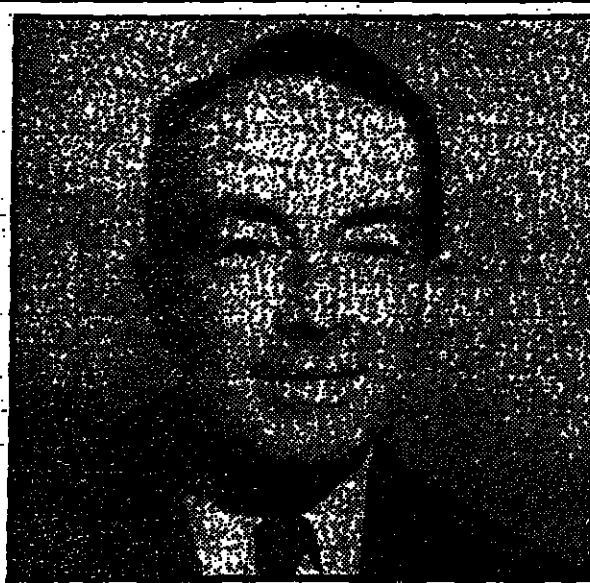
Arriving in London in November 1947, Robertson expected that there would be no difficulty in persuading the government to set a target date to end extraditions and trials. To his surprise, even Shapcott opposed his suggestion. "These are cold-blooded murders. Are we to let murderers go free?" The General was temporarily beaten, but undeterred.

Overshadowing his pleas for an end to the investigations and trials, and despite the failure still to reach the 500 case target, was the prospect of a major trial of three German Field Marshals — von Rundstedt, von Brauchitsch and von Manstein.

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Adapted from *Blind Eye to Murder* by Tom Bower, which is to be published by André Deutsch on Thursday at £9.95



Group Captain Somerhough: angry



Sir Hartley Shawcross: determined

Tomorrow:  
Dinner for a defeated  
field-marshal



In the era of equality, new standards prevail when a man and woman part

# Why the rules of the maintenance game must change



Lucy Hughes-Hallett

A High Court judge last week ruled that the wealth of a mistress must not be taken into account by courts deciding how much maintenance her lover should pay his ex-wife. The ruling may seem obviously just as to require no further comment, but it seems there are many who would dispute it.

The case reached the High Court only when the man in question appealed against the magistrates' contrary decision.

In another recent case, a woman claimed increased maintenance when her husband was given a rise. As he rose up the promotional ladder, she believed that she, too, should benefit from his rising standard of living.

According to her argument, the ex-wife of a deputy-under-assistant-comptroller-operator may expect to enjoy, 40 years on, the lifestyle suitable to the ex-wife of a managing director.

If a man knows that his former wife is suffering hardships, and if he himself is comparatively well-off, it would be humane for him to offer her financial help above and beyond the maintenance payment originally agreed if her inability to support herself is in part his fault, because he discouraged her from working or training to work during their marriage, he might even feel himself under an obligation to do so. Yet there is no law to say that he must. Nor, it seems to me, does the woman in question have any right to expect that he should.

If a couple has children, the person granted custody of them — usually the mother — is entitled to ask her former husband to contribute at least half the cost of their keep. And if she is unable to work, because

she must stay at home to look after them, he must also support her. So far, so right and proper. But if the divorced couple are childless, or the children are old enough to look after themselves, the case is different. There is no reason an impoverished husband should expect his rich ex-wife to maintain him in the style to which he had become accustomed while living with her, or vice versa.

In the cases I have cited, the claimants put themselves clearly in the wrong by asking for too much. I wonder whether they had a right to expect anything at all.

Let us assume, for example, that the traditional sexual roles have been reversed. A man with a poorly paid part-time job (say, a freelance journalist) meets a woman who owns her flat and works full-time for a generous salary. She might, for instance, be a merchant banker. He moves in. They may, or may not, get married.

They love each other and take delight in each other's company. She pays for his holidays because without his presence, travelling would be no pleasure to her. She gives him expensive clothes as presents because she loves to see him look good and to feel that her friends envy her

such a desirable man. She buys lobsters and legs of French lamb from the over-priced shops near her place of work.

When she is too busy to shop or too tired to cook she suggests they go out and, knowing he can't afford to go Dutch at the restaurants of her choice, she usually picks up the bill. She pays the taxi-fares.

She makes all that he earns available to him as pocket money. In return for all this, he loves, honours and cherishes her and she considers herself amply repaid.

Some idylls last for ever, but assume that this one doesn't. Gradually, the merchant banker begins to realize that the man who once seemed to her to combine the best qualities of Baudelaire, Lord Nelson and her father is in fact a slob with a superficial mind and an over-inflated ego. It meanwhile dawns on him that she has other personality features besides generosity, wit and independence of mind — such as bossiness, bad temper and a tendency to wear the same pair of tights two days running.

They part with tears and mutual recriminations. The journalist, tossing and turning on a friend's sofa, reflects that if his wife/mistress had not so

pampered him he would have been obliged, some time earlier, to look for regular employment.

It occurs to him that he has spent all his recent working hours writing book reviews for prestige literary magazines run on low budgets. He has allowed his more lucrative contacts to lapse, his editor friends have moved away; it is not going to be easy to find work.

What's more, he remembers that when he first met the merchant banker, he was slimmer, his hair grew further forward on his forehead, he had not begun to wear bifocals. He begins to doubt his ability to attract another, equally desirable, woman.

"She has taken the best years of my life", he moans. "She shall pay for them." He applies for maintenance. The merchant banker has to sell her flat to pay. For the rest of her life, as the journalist rightly foresaw, no one else wants him. She pays nearly a third of her income every year to a man whose only claim on her was that she once loved him.

Few people will sympathize with the journalist in this case but if he were a she, she might find many supporters although the case were otherwise identical. There are many men who

are happy that their women should live on them like parasites and women who, instead of accepting their generosity with gratitude as an expression of love, demand it as a right even after love has ended. Both men and women are damaged in the process, and divorce, which should perform the function of an amputation which facilitates a cure, becomes a festering wound.

There was a time, not so distant, when no woman expected to have to support herself. If she remained unmarried, she stayed at home with her parents who fed and sheltered her. If she married, her husband assumed that responsibility. In exchange, she bore and cared for his children, kept his house clean, prepared his food, went to his office parties with him and was always home at five-thirty to welcome him when he got back tired from earning their mutual living.

There are still thousands of women, many now divorced, who were brought up to expect their lives would be so ordered. They concentrated on dress-making and cooking at school, took undemanding, time-wasting jobs to fill in the years before marriage and relaxed gratefully into their husbands' strong,

supportive arms as soon as they could. Such women are indeed pathetically ill-equipped to deal with life alone. Their husbands promised them "With all my worldly goods I thee endow... till death us do part". The women believe them and acted accordingly.

If their marriages break up, especially if it happens when they are already middle-aged, they are left helpless. It would be over-harsh to ask them, in the cause of sexual equality, to fend for themselves, and they are not asked to do so. The laws governing maintenance exist to protect them and they are, mostly, just.

But the days when a woman never dreamt she might need her own two feet to stand on are gone. Women demand equal pay and equal freedom and an inflation economy demands that they should contribute to the family finances. If they live as parasites it is because they have chosen to do so. Anyone below the age of, say, 35, who demands from her ex-husband one penny more than she needs to support their mutual children is an emotional highwayman. Young women have no right to the old laws. To use them is to abuse them.

## Fashion by Suzy Menkes

### The last fling for summer (coloured rather patriotically)

Skis, mittens and toboggans are filling the shops in the Black Sea resorts where Soviet holidaymakers are basking by the sea. I laughed at our correspondent Michael Binyon's report of how the Russians have got their production so out of tune that it is snowing sledges in July. Until, that is, I went around our shops last week.

Today is the 14th of July. It marks the falling of the Bastille, the start of the high summer season throughout continental Europe, and the first fruits of autumn fashion falling on to our store counters. Having just bought a pair of half-price bronze sandals and a marked-down swimsuit, I am delighted with the new selling system that encourages me to wait until the hot weather finally comes to buy summer clothes — and pay what I would have done if I had bought them in freezing February.

But now that the last of the summer clothes lies in sad heaps in the sale bins, I am agog to find out what will happen next. Will next week's sprucing-up for the Royal Wedding bring a fresh flurry of cotton frocks and romantic lace blouses? Or will it be straight into the velvet knickerbockers, the country sues and the thick hand-knit cardigans that were shown for the autumn season?

The tourists (God bless 'em) will be pleased to find all the traditional British tweeds, wools and raincoats, so useful for Claridges now that they have insisted on turning the heating off.

But like serving sprouts before you really have to, I am certainly not going back into the winter clothes I took to the cleaners last week.

Perhaps the shops are going to come out in a rash of

patriotic colours, giving me the chance to be a scarlet woman, a white lady or to buy the navy culottes I've been looking for all summer? It must be a sign of wedding times that M & S have already started hauling the flag up to our unmentionables (red, white and blue packs of knickers for £1.99 from major stores). The trouble with red, white and blue is that it might be a little daring by next summer season (unless Princes and Edward give us another wedding whirl).

So with my readers' best interests at heart, I have put together two outfits that will help you flout the flag (if you must). They can also be worn by perfectly normal people who want to go on wearing summer clothes throughout July and August.

We might as well enjoy a last fling of summer while stocks and intermittent sunshine last.



Above: Scarlet and white tropical-print blouse £20, red vest £6.50 and slim, white-cotton skirt £30, all by Jousse from Dizzy of Brent Cross, Young Ideas of Ashbourne and Hobby of Cardiff. Royal blue belt by Otto Glanz £8.50, from a selection at John Lewis. Multi-coloured bead necklace by Travelling Trinkets.

Photograph by Tony Boase. Hair by Guy at Toni and Guy.

Right: Scarlet and white asymmetric T-shirt dress, with patterned inserts, £18. Blue and red pirate ash £15. Both from Vivienne Westwood's World's End, 430 Kings Road SW10. Shell earrings £2.50 and necklace £7.50 from Fenwick's of Bond Street.

Photograph by Richard Imrie. Hair by Paul at Daniel Galvin.



## Snippets

I was intrigued to learn that Lady Diana has asked Barbara Daly, the British make-up artist, to do her face for her wedding day.

Barbara Daly, an unassuming and highly professional wig-maker, is much in demand on the international beauty circuit and has worked with all the world's leading fashion photographers.

She also created the extraordinary make-up seen in Stanley Kubrick's 1971 film, *A Clockwork Orange*, which prophetically caught the later excesses of the Punks and New Romantics.

This afternoon, London readers can listen to her advice on teenage skin problems, when she uses Olaymo. Sharron Davies as a model in a new series of six programmes on Thames TV's *After Noon Plus* (Daily Beauty, 2.20 pm).

The programmes progress through the seven ages of woman, including a discussion on the 35 to 45 age group (August 11), starring BBC newscaster and new mother Jan Leeming.

In two weeks' time, on the eve of the big day, Barbara Daly will talk about making up for your wedding day, with special hints on choosing and applying cosmetics when wearing white. "The one thing most women do not understand about making up is changing their routine."

Barbara uses a battery of brushes to give sweeps of colour. "The least-fashionable colours are the ones that most women use: all those horrid pastel blues and greens. Ironically, they look good only when used in a fun way by very young girls. Most women need to blend quiet colours so that nothing — lips, eyes or cheeks — stands out."

Collecting antique clothes is still very much in vogue, even though the tidal wave of flea market fashions has long since receded. The charm of the old is not just its originality but the fact that the quality and workmanship is often far greater than you can find for any price today.

Antique lace is particularly sought after (Princess Michael of Kent is an avid collector), both for entire garments and for small but exquisite pieces. These are then used for detachable collars or cravats or are sewn on to silk blouses or even silk underwear.

Connoisseurs will already know that a collection of lace comes up for sale at Christie's South Kensington next Tuesday, with an important sale of beaded twenties dresses a week later.

Victorian lace garments, mostly on cotton, are usually available from Lunn Antiques, 86 New King's Road, London SW6, and from Virginia, 98 Portland Road, London W11, as well as in most good antique shops.

Old lace is incorporated with sensitivity and skill into newly designed clothes by Maria Martin, 114 Parkway, London NW1.

Collecting on a more light-hearted note is the theme of Berman's new theatre shop which sells off some of their theatrical costumes alongside the posters and memorabilia.

Ever since Adam Ant polished up his pop image with the brass buttoned jacket made for the film *The Charge of the Light Brigade*, theatrical costumes have had a new wave of popularity with the young.

Girls are searching for ball dresses among the period costumes from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries which may occasionally filter into the shop. It's at 18 Irving Street, London WC2.

## Ten years to circle the globe

"Waist not, want not" should clearly be the motto of Mulberry, who celebrated their tenth birthday last week by announcing that they had produced two million belts (enough if you count the fatter customers) to fit the globe.

I am rather interested in the philosophy of Roger Saul, Mulberry's young director who saw a gap in the market (between our bosoms and our hips) and serviced it with a splendid collection of belts, which includes everything from fake snake to schoolboy stripes on elastic. He then branched into other leather goods such as bags, luggage and wallets, then expanded into scarves, cravats, sunglasses and umbrellas. The most recent development has

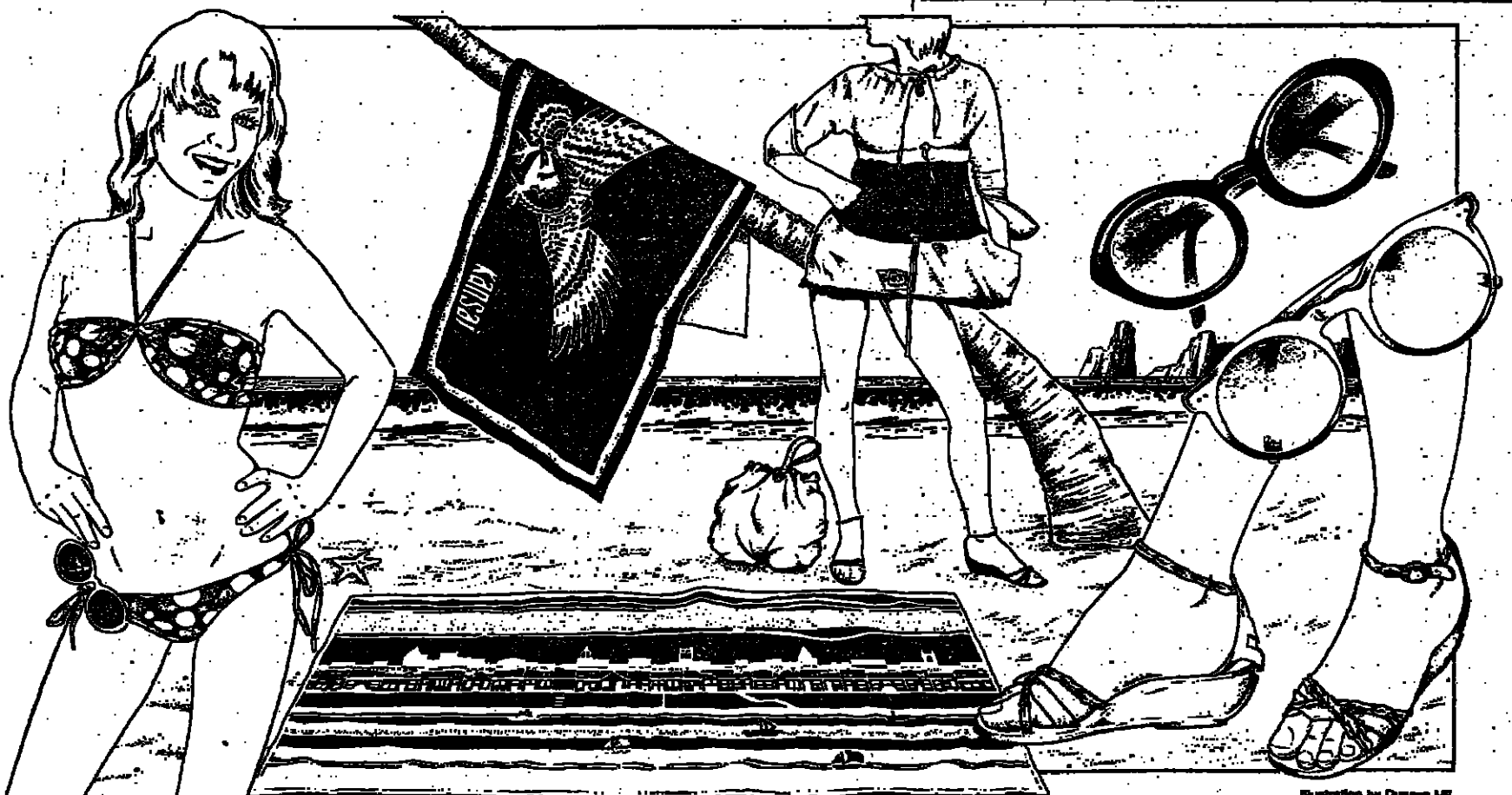
been to make the clothes (shorts, jackets, jodhpurs, knits, raincoats) to go with the accessories, which is an original way of looking at the fashion problem of getting it all together.

Saul has certainly got things together, with the help of his mother (their financial director), and the £250 he inherited on his 21st birthday 10 years ago. His workforce in Somerset now numbers 120, and from the Bath headquarters he directs his London shop in St Christopher's Place (due to expand up the road next year) and a flourishing home and export business, which won him the Queen's Award in 1979.

It seems particularly clever to export accessories from Britain

because styling our clothes is not a native skill. We seem to suffer from the outdated idea that if in doubt, one should take it off. This theory may still apply to decking oneself out in diamonds. But summer accessories are big, bold and not to be used discreetly. The favourites are metallic bags and girths for everything from belts to heads.

It is worth remembering that fashions also change in high holiday accessories like sunglasses (newest in oval shapes with coloured frames) and beach bags (favourites are duffel bags with drawstrings). Even the humble beach towel now has a new image, with landscapes or bold pictures claiming their place on the sand.



Bits and bobs for the beach to pull together your holiday wardrobe

Left: Printed cotton bikini by Mulberry £21.95, from their shop at 32 St Christopher's Place, London W1, Moon of Glasgow, His and Hers of Derby and Taylor and Hadow of Beauchamp Place, SW3

In the foreground: Beach scene towel £7.95 from major branches of Marks & Spencer. On the tree: Eagle-pattern towel by Kansai Yamamoto £26 from Joanna's Tent, Kings Road, SW3. Just Jacki of Leicester, Kew Gazette of Richmond, Mango of Windsor, and Chevy of St Christopher's Place.

On the girl: Naga di Milo's colourful cotton play dress which turns into the bag on the ground £35.50, in assorted colours from Naga di Milo, 60 Chiltern Street, W1 (and by mail order), Hobbs of South Molton St, W1 and Hampstead High Street, Roxy of Kensington Church Street, Inc of Leicester and Eve of Torquay.

Right: Sunglasses £18.95, from a selection by Mulberry, stockists as above. Plaited leather Roman sandals £29.95, from Mulberry's shop.

## ANNABELINDA

Dress Designs of genius for formal occasions into Royal Societies, for clandestine meetings in unassuming places for gala performances at the Opera and at later hours elsewhere; for the rapists of Princesses of the Blood Royal; for the greater pleasure of discerning voyagers at major events of the sporting calendar; for dual invitations to discreet holiday lodges lost in ancestral forests; announce

### A Summer Sale

of designs and exhibition pieces of their handmade originals On all the multitudinous weights and textures of silk, cotton and seersucker in subtle colouring only seen to date; and as always their discerning and eccentric clientele may be given certain of a little tangibly longer of Belmont (longer) in cotton crumpled away by crumpled and crag beyond care or courtesy or in heavy beds of herbage crumpled or in long gardens lapped by the last of long bearded hedges most sedulously; or in last gardens summered by the Sun King (and in other seraglio of the sophisticated subterranean at Number Six, Gloucester Street, by the steps door of the New Theatre, in the city of Oxford 40000).

مكتبة من الأصول







# Caught in the war between them and us

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While fires burnt in the streets of Brixton once again last Friday I was given a bizarre lesson—how to make a riot do-it-yourself style—during a 10 minute car ride with a young West Indian.

He claimed to have been one of the organizers of last week's mayhem in Wood Green and his strategy was simply to go around youth clubs in the locality, wait outside the big comprehensive and name a time and place. You could be certain, he said, of a sizable crowd of youngsters who would do anything for a lark.

I followed his advice and went to Downhill's youth club in Tottenham. There I got a tip of an impending riot from Michael, a Greek Cypriot boy of 15. He told me where to meet him and I duly presented myself at the appointed venue.

In Hoe Street, Walthamstow, on Saturday evening, following the fracas in front of Walthamstow Town Hall at midday, a small crowd of West Indian and Asian youths gathered expectantly. Several coach loads of skinheads were seen driving through the town centre. Tension was already at a high pitch due to the presence of droves of policemen in cars, buses and on horse back.

Suddenly, a group of three young white men appeared from nowhere, and were subsequently joined by a fourth female member. They issued instructions, gesticulating



Indian journalist

Sasthi Brata's

personal view

of the problems in reporting riots

with their hands and repeatedly looking at their watches, to several clusters of young men on both sides of the street, and then vanished from view. As if by magic, the young potential rioters dissolved from sight as well.

On that occasion no affray took place. I was made to look like a lemon waiting for a special version of Godot. By 10 in the evening when things were still quiet, a colleague said, "you almost feel tempted to throw a brick and start the whole thing off, so it's over and done with". It was a human enough reaction born of boredom and fatigue. But it was also a response poised dangerously on that razor's

edge between news and views, fact and wish-fulfilment. And it made me ponder about my own role as "reporter".

As a freelancer, I had always been called out from home when racial trouble erupted in any part of London. And since I seem to have visited most headline-grabbing spots in the capital over the past few years, under the aegis of one national newspaper or another, there must have been an assumption in the minds of editors that my tanned pigmentation somehow made me that much more competent in this field.

I had tacitly shared this assumption, until I was rudely shaken out of it in Wood Green and Walthamstow last week. Coloured teenagers drummed it into me that my brown skin and Indian birth provided no immunity in their eyes: my accent, dress and the tools of my trade (a notepad and pen) gave me away as a full blown member of that class and breed against which they had taken up arms. As one would-be rioter put it when I told him I was a journalist: "All the press is fascist anyway. They're all against blacks".

It came home to me that in the war between "them" and "us", it was perilous to be caught in the cross fire. "Moderation" is either an *a priori* virtue if you are looking through "liberal



lenses or a cowardly vice if you happen to be a crusading leftist, irrespective of what issue you are being "moderate" about.

If you come back with a graphic report of sweat shops in Brick Lane owned by Bangladeshis exploiting fellow Bangladeshis, your story will be spiked by a liberal newspaper because we are not in business to provide fodder for the National Front nor "to inflame an already explosive situation". But if the youngsters who tread those sewing machines for less than 40 pence an hour for 10 hours a day take to the streets some two years later, no editor is going to make the connection between the suppression of an earlier story and the explosion of street violence many months later.

On the day Blair Peach died, I had interviewed

Martin Webster and was the only coloured journalist in the hall where the National Front held its meeting. Earlier, I had unsuccessfully argued with the man from Ealing Town Hall to let in the television cameras, as I believed that for every new recruit the NF made, there would be a thousand others who would be repelled by the Nazi salutes and vicious screams of "Kill him! Kill him!" at the mere mention of an Asian name.

Next day when I wrote in the then *Evening Standard* that walking around the spectral streets of Southall the previous night, I felt "remorse" at the bloody devastation of an English town and wondered whether I and my likes were in any way responsible, I was accused by compatriots and "progressive ideologues" of being an apologist for racism.

On Friday last week, TV news bulletins on all three channels carried pictures of the Prime Minister, in the company of "community leaders in Southall", announcing to the nation that "I have not heard one word against the police". Of course she hadn't! But did that mean ordinary residents and the young people of Southall had nothing but warm fraternal feelings for the police?

Not if I was to believe what I had heard the day after the riots. Members of the Southall Youth Movement were quite specific in their allegations. One teenager said that he had seen a local cop in plain clothes get out of one of the coaches which had brought the skinheads into Southall. Mr Balraj Purewal, the Secretary of the SYM told me on tape that "the police are on their

Police in action against rioters last week: Name a time and place and you could be certain of a sizeable crowd of youngsters who would do anything for a lark?

side. I saw skinheads and cops fighting together against us".

I make no point about the veracity or otherwise of these remarks. But they do happen to be from eyewitnesses, perhaps even participants in the riot. Yet the nation was informed both by Mrs Thatcher and the media that Southall felt no animosity towards the police.

What we were not told was the fact that the representative, seen on all screens shaking hands with the Prime Minister, does not and has never lived in Southall, and his connexion with the community is peripheral. And that the other members of the delegation which met Mrs Thatcher are affectionately known as "coconuts", which is a rough colloquial equivalent of "Uncle Tom".

When young people see "strangers", whatever their skin colour, speaking on their behalf, whether it is in Brixton, Southall or Brick Lane, they feel doubly assaulted, first by their enemies, then by the media. If wholly unrepresentative views are widely publicized as the genuine voice of the local community, tempers are inflamed not becalmed.

In one sense, the men who

met Margaret Thatcher may be called the "extremists" because they represent minority opinion, while the young folk at the SYM are the real "moderates" whose angry cries for truth and recognition of their genuine grievances continue to go unheeded. As one of them said: "You want to know where the petrol bombs came from and how it all started? Well, in a way, the bombs started coming all the way from India and Pakistan, a long time ago. And you will know how it started if you imagine you are a youngster in Southall and all these white fascists come into your town and start beating up your mother and sister; and all the "coconuts" tell you to keep calm and trust the police".

It is plainly desirable for a community to feel no hostility towards the police. I cannot see how taking the wish for the fact continues valid reporting or political sagacity.

Later, an Indian councillor, whose face has also appeared on the box, told me: "I don't want to talk to you. You are from the Establishment; you have no feeling for the local community, and you write things as if you are not one of us. Maybe that is the only way you can get your stuff into print".

My own dilemma was why I should be expected to be on any side at all, and why my brown skin should bar me from reporting what I saw and heard.

So far the reselection of Labour MPs is not the bogey that many expected...

## The token nominee shunted into St Pancras

Mr Jock Campbell first knew he would be appearing before a reselection meeting tonight of the St Pancras North Labour Party when *The Times* telephoned him last week.

Mr Campbell, 53, a strong Benetton and secretary of the London City branch of the Post Office Engineering Workers Union (POEU) was surprised to find he had been shortlisted for the contest. He has not set foot in the constituency, which is the other side of London from his own stamping ground of Bexleyheath, where he is vice-chairman of the local Labour Party. He is not on the official list of Labour candidates.

He was nominated by his own POEU branch, which is affiliated to the St Pancras North Labour Party. He does not even know how many members of that branch are in the local party. In fact, it needs only one member of a trade union branch to be a member of a constituency Labour Party for that branch to be eligible for affiliation and have the right to send a delegate to the general management committee (GMC).

There seems little danger, however, that Mr Campbell will topple the sitting MP, Mr Jock Stallard. He himself has no intention of doing so. He says, "I don't think Mr Stallard has anything to fear. If he's done a good job, they should put him back". There is general agreement among local party members that Mr Stallard, who has been MP since 1970 after nearly 20 years as a local councillor, has done a good job. He is widely

praised as a first-class constituency member.

It is hard to avoid the feeling that tonight's will be a rather phoney contest. It comes about because the St Pancras North GMC decided it wanted to adhere to the recommendation of the Labour Party's national executive committee that reselection conferences should not normally have a shortlist of one if other nominations have been received.

Only two sitting MPs rejected

Several other local Labour parties have adhered to the NEC's guidelines and provided similarly token contests. The dire predictions of those who said that reselection would lead to the wholesale ousting of sitting MPs by militant left-wingers have not yet been borne out. Of the 49 MPs who have so far gone through the process, only two, Mr Eric Ogden in Liverpool, West Derby, and Mr John Sever in Birmingham, Ladywood, have failed to be reselected.

The Labour Party has laid down that reselection must take place between 18 and 36 months after a general election. After deciding that it wanted to go through the process this summer, the St Pancras North GMC gave its affiliated branches two months to nominate candidates. There are two kinds of branches: those made up of local wards and those representing trade unions and other



Jock Campbell: a shortlist surprise.

affiliated groups such as the Co-operative movement.

Only two nominations have been received by the closing date last month. Mr Campbell's name had been put forward by the POEU branch and Mr Stallard's by a number of other affiliated union branches, including the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staff (ASTMS). It was therefore an easy matter for the executive committee of the constituency party to draw up a shortlist when it met last Tuesday and to invite both nominees to the reselection meeting.

St Pancras North is like most Labour constituency parties now going through the reselection process. There are no complaints against the sitting MP and no serious infiltration from the militant left. The party is in a generally healthy state—at the last count there were about 400 paid-up members—and more stable than many others in inner-city areas. A significant number of the 58-strong GMC will carry out tonight's reselection have been in the local party for 15 years or more.

It is true that old-timers have noted a drift towards more radicalism has dominated the party as the constituency, which stretches from Camden Town to Highgate Hill, has been gentri-



Jock Stallard: a boundary threat?

Mr Phil Carroll, a maintenance electrician and the party's membership secretary, says: "There do tend to be more professional people, and fewer working-class people like myself. For example, in my ward I have got Jon Snow of ITN and I had Bill Rodgers and his wife before they joined the Social Democrats. There are a fair number of university lecturers, teachers and doctors".

'Very mixed and broadly based'

Certainly the GMC contains more than its fair share of well-known names from the media and national pressure groups. They include Patricia Hewitt, secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties, who was recently denounced as Labour candidate for Leicester East; Bernard Donoghue, policy editor of *The Times*; and Nicholas Bosanquet, a lecturer at the City University and regular contributor to *New Society*.

However, gentrification does not seem to have had the effect in St Pancras North that it has had in Islington, where the local Labour Party tends to be split between a predominantly old

working-class right and a young, middle-class left. In the words of Mary Wallis Jones, a market researcher and GMC member who has been in the St Pancras North party for 20 years: "We are very mixed and very broadly based but we are also very friendly. We are also a lot more down to earth than the Hampstead party, which doesn't have Labour representation in Parliament".

Much of the credit for this good atmosphere is given to Mr Stallard, who himself has a working-class background and broadly leftist, though not Bennite, views. The constituency has a long tradition of being left-wing, which may explain why it has not been a target for entryism by the far left.

Some members of the GMC detect a significant shift to the left over the past two years, but others disagree. Mr Giles Taylor, a woolen merchant who has been in the party for 25 years, says: "It has moved right and it has moved left. It was more left 20 years ago than it is now. When Gaiskell was leader some meetings ended in fistfights".

Ironically, even after emerging unscathed from the reselection meeting, as everyone agrees that he will, Mr Stallard will still face a serious threat to his future as an MP. It comes not from the militant left, or the right, but from the Parliamentary Boundary Commissioners, who have recommended that his constituency should be amalgamated with St Pancras South, now held for Labour by Mr Frank Dobson.

If, as seems almost certain, that recommendation is put into effect, Mr Stallard and Mr Dobson are likely to find themselves at loggerheads with another reselection meeting for the new constituency next year.

Many other MPs are under a similar threat. Altogether, the re-drawing of constituency boundaries is likely to lead to the disappearance of up to 40 Labour seats, the majority of them in depopulated inner city areas.

One of those most at risk is the Bristol South-East constituency of Mr Tony Benn, the architect of reselection as a means of making MPs more accountable to their local parties.

Jan Bradley

## No sparks at Sparkbrook

In my constituency (using that admittedly possessive pronoun to describe consanguinity rather than ownership) the reselection story had a happy ending—subject, that is, to the endorsement of the National Executive Committee.

I recalled that important constitutional caveat last Saturday as the chairman of the Sparkbrook Labour Party announced that I was the general committee's choice for prospective parliamentary candidature. Perhaps it was only paranoia that caused me to continue the uncertainty. For it is possible to argue that the story had both a happy beginning and a happy middle.

No one else was nominated; and my claim to retain the candidature had been advanced by all the local branches, five trade unions and the local Labour Club. But none of my comrades and friends felt disposed to treat the formal reselection process as if it were a formality.

The officials of the Sparkbrook constituency—determined to avoid technical errors which might result in their decision being set aside and the whole procedure being started afresh—operated the rules with a ruthless regularity. I found unerring. The only exception to the precise propriety was my "introduction" to the committee. "This", they were told, "is Mr Roy Hattersley, the one nominee".

In the hall, sat men and women with whom I drink tea on Friday afternoons and beer on Friday nights. Four of them were parents of my godchildren. When I was presented like a debutante at Queen Victoria's court, they could not choke down a friendly "congratulations" while they decided if, having seen me, they wished to proceed with the selection conference. As they did, I delivered a carefully prepared speech.

It was not only natural nervousness that made me determined to take nothing for granted. I expected their endorsement; but it did not seem right to ask for it in a five-minute, impromptu chat. As I prepared the "copious notes" that in the Commons



by Roy Hattersley

are a euphemism for a verbatim text, I realized that familiarity with my audience was a handicap, not a help. Most of them knew every detail of my past 17 political years. All had supported me during the difficult days when the party leadership had disowned my promise to abolish the public schools. I spent two minutes on the record of advice bureaux and personal service, five on the areas of undoubted unanimity and three on policies about which some of them would believe me to be wrong. I wanted them to remember that I supported Nato, the EEC and an incomes policy.

As I wrote out that although I had "naturally emphasized the areas of our agreement but it would be wrong for me to pretend that there are no issues on which my opinions may differ from those of a majority of the delegates to this meeting", I began to wonder why (apart from sentiment) people at different views should be expected to vote for me.

I knew that "self-respect as well as respect for this constituency obliges me not to pretend that I support policies which, in truth, I believe to be wrong". But that does not answer the fundamental question. Neither does Edmund

Burke's dictum concerning an MP's right to intellectual independence.

The single promise of unfettered judgment used honestly and objectively as the Member—and only the Member—thinks best, was the product of a less advanced and more deferential age. In the era of party manifestos and party whips, it is a romantic fiction.

On the other hand, the need for the Labour Party willingly to encompass a wide spectrum of socialist opinion is a practical necessity. If the brief majorities on constituency committees attempt to depose MPs with different views or bully them into conformity with their own prevailing opinions, the Labour Party will fall apart. For us, trust and tolerance are necessities as well as virtues. But they have to be applied in both directions.

A Labour MP who tells his local party to mind its own business is in the wrong business himself. One who tries to argue his case as an alternative interpretation of the socialism in which he and his critics believe, will find most constituency parties more positive than the newspapers suggest. It was to that theme that I devoted the last five of my allotted 15 minutes.

I admit at once that it was easy for me to lay out the ground rules of tolerance and mutual respect. The Sparkbrook Labour Party (being wholly representative of Sparkbrook itself) throws up no conflicts concerning the rival views of electors and activists. Having experienced two years of Tory government it is a practicing view about the need to win elections. It is a party whose membership is growing, and most of the new recruits have joined to help secure a Labour victory, not to block the Labour Party.

In a party that endorses the divisive rigours of mandatory reselection can be carried out without civil war being declared. In a different kind of party the story would be different. In this kind of party the story is here to stay, thank God for parties like Sparkbrook. The author is Labour MP for Birmingham, Sparkbrook.

## Six stars in the running to play Arianna's Callas

A short-list of six actresses interested in playing Maria Callas in the film version of Arianna Stassinopoulos's biography of the singer has been drawn up in New York. The front runners, I am told, are Anne Bancroft, Irene Papas, the Greek actress, and Jean Lapointe, who has just won a Tony award on Broadway for her role in *Piaf*. The outsiders (too expensive and probably too busy) are Liza Minelli, Cher and Sophia Loren.

Fitting is scheduled to start in September but I am not sure how seriously that date is now being taken. Ronald Harwood, who is writing the screenplay, has delivered the first 100 pages of the script but British producer Mark Shivas still has to find a director, and the final decision on the leading lady is unlikely to be taken before then.

Singing ability is not required since the main character's voice will be dubbed for the operatic excerpts. Aristotle Onassis, the dominant man in Callas's life, has not been cast either, but Shivas is optimistic that the Greek Onassis's luxury yacht on which he frequently entertained Winston Churchill. (It was subsequently given to the Greek government by Onassis's daughter.)

There will in fact be two Callases in the film: an unknown actress will play Maria in her earlier years. Apparently, hundreds of women in

America have been having their hair styled in the Callas fashion and sending photos to Shivas and Miss Stassinopoulos.

Shivas was initially worried about how to tell the likes of Bancroft and Loren that someone else was needed to play the younger woman. "That's simple," said Harwood. "Just tell them you need someone else to play the fat Callas."

## Maxwell sues

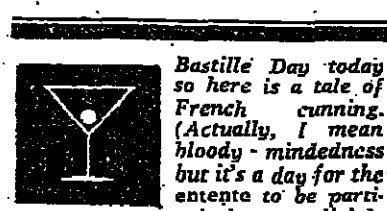
Mr Robert Maxwell, the ebullient chief of the British Printing Corporation and of the Pergamon Press, has issued a writ for libel with damages against *The Bookseller*, the usually sedate trade weekly that serves the publishing industry.

Some might say that suing *The Bookseller* is a bit like kicking the umpire, but Mr Maxwell insists that a brief "news item" last month, headed "Pergamon sackings attacked", falsely suggested that the methods as an employer had earned the disapproval of parts of the Labour movement.

Mr David Whitaker, editorial director of *The Bookseller*, says the article was innocuous and neither said nor implied any of the things Mr Maxwell said it did. He says it merely reported the resolutions passed at meetings of ASTMS and the Oxford Labour Party in connexion with a long-standing strike at Pergamon (which has its premises on the outskirts of the city).

Mr Maxwell said yesterday: "They have chosen to rely on nine sacked so-called journalists. I don't mean that in a disparaging way but

## THE TIMES DIARY



Since the war, the French in London have used a *Soho* pub called *The York-Minster*, in Dean Street. It was the only pub visited by de Gaulle when he was in exile here

those nine were copy-markers; at *The Times* they would be Natsons members, not in the NUJ. What they say is untrue and *The Bookseller* knows it to be untrue. Mr Whitaker will now have the privilege of proving how reliable, true and accurate their stories are.

"*The Bookseller* has been sniping against me for some time, and now I wish to call a halt. Whitaker has brought it on himself. I have no option but to go to court—unless they want to make a grovelling apology."

Whitaker says that Maxwell has twice threatened action against his newspaper but this is the first time he has moved. "We shall contest the action vigorously," he promises. His family-owned paper, established in 1858, however shoddy its image, is no stranger to litigation. Among pre-

vious contestants appear such figures as Walter Hinchin and, more recently, Harold Robbins.

and every Bastille Day you can see Free French survivors shuffling by for a *Pernod*, wearing their medals. Not unnaturally, the pub became known as *The French Pub* and if ever you were in Shaftesbury Avenue and asked the way to *The York-Minster* you would normally get a notvery anglicized slur. Eventually, a few months ago the name was changed officially to *The French etc*. So what happens? Regulars now call it *The York-Minster*.

Nuclear moves

Admiral Sergey Gorshkov, the architect of the Soviet Union's formidable deep-ocean Navy, is in his seventies and has been due to retire for 25 years. This has not gone without notice among observers of the Soviet military scene. The same eagle-eyed watch-dogs have also noted that the USSR's military press, usually about as forthcoming as the Lake Baikal monster, has recently begun dishing out accolades to a relatively young naval commander. Which sounds like a signal that this officer is being promoted to take over soon from Admiral Gorshkov.

Vladimir Nikolayevich Chernavin, 53, the commander of the northern fleet, is the highly decorated admiral who has taken the fancy of *Krasnaya Zvezda*, the Soviet armed forces' newspaper. He has a number of "nuclear firsts" under his belt and the newspaper has devoted two lengthy eulogies to him in less than six weeks.

Chernavin was one of the first commanders of a nuclear submarine and the first to launch missiles from a submerged nuclear vessel. For navigating under the icecap and for submerged circumnavigation



of the globe, he won the coveted Order of Lenin in 1966. He has also been awarded the Order of the Red Banner and the Order of the October Revolution "for successes in battle training and for developing new equipment". And to emphasize the achievements of this nuclear submariner, the Soviet Union has named him the recently the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Chernavin is also in the good books of the party—he is a candidate member of the party's Central Committee—and a deputy of the Supreme Soviet, so he is clearly destined to make over Russia's top naval command.

of England, bishop to take part in the ordination of a female priest.

The fact that he will not be taking place in Britain is just as well, given that the majority of British clergy are against the ordination of women.

Bishop Stockwood has a personal interest in the coming ceremony, the St Rev. Mary Stockwood, I now hear that he is about to raise more eyebrows among Anglican backwoodsmen.

In December he will become what is believed to be the first Church

Silent salon

The death of Ian Fleming's widow, Ann, announced yesterday, has deprived North Wiltshire of a lively political salon. Frequent visitors to her home at Sevenhampton were Ray Jenkins, Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Goodman and many other emissaries from London and abroad. The change of gossip was always skillfully and subtly orchestrated by Mrs Fleming herself.

Eyebrow-raising

After my item the other day about the former Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Rev. Mary Stockwood, I now hear that he is about to raise more eyebrows among Anglican backwoodsmen.

Name games

My mention of the more unusual recreations listed in *Who's Who* prompted Richard Pakenham, editor of *International Who's Who*, to write in with an enchanting list taken from his own publication, the next edition of which is published this month. It is an unashamed attempt to get me to plug the book, but worth it...

John Bunting: "falls off horses". Vanessa Redgrave: "changing the status quo". John Osborne: "critic, Yank and Aussie slapping". Edna O'Brien: "dreaming by day, dancing by night".

Yvonne Chavire: "collects swallows at tennis". Bryan Forbes: "avoiding bores". Konstantine Marschitzky: "performance of tea ceremony".

Peter Watson

هكذا من الأمل





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## DISPERSE OR BE CHARGED

Laws passed in panic are often bad laws. Because they have not been properly considered, they tend, in the longer term, to be inefficient at doing the job they were intended to do. Frequently, they are not even successful in their short term objective. I deal with the events which gave rise to their adoption in Parliament. There is no shortage of suggestions for change in the law to deal with the rioting and criminal hooliganism of the past ten days. Many of the proposals being offered, however, demonstrate a lack of understanding of the English system of criminal justice, and a confusion of thought in matching the remedy to the sickness.

Some of the criticisms of the law's inadequacy are misguided. It is understandable that the public should be concerned that the number of arrests made by the police is not proportionate to the gravity and extent of the disturbances, and that those who are arrested are often charged with relatively trivial offences which do not reflect the seriousness of their crimes. This is almost inevitable in circumstances in which the police are often too busy defending their own safety to be able to go on the offensive. It is by no means easy and the general chaos, to identify an assailant throwing a petrol bomb from fifty yards away in the dark, let alone to arrest him. Of course many hooligans who have committed serious crimes are not brought to justice for these reasons, but that is not the fault of the law. There is, in general, a wide enough range of offences that can be used once in arrest is made; nor is it the case that the law is so soft, in failing to provide sufficiently harsh penalties. A petrol bomb, for example, can probably be charged with an offence under the Explosive Substances Act of 1883, which carries a maximum of life imprisonment.

There is also some confusion being shown between the content and the machinery of the law. The so-called "special riot courts" being urged from some quarters mean little more than magistrates' courts — at least outside London — are already doing: attempting to hurry along the processes of justice so that rioters can be dealt with more expeditiously than would normally be the case. In London there are serious holdups; from the 354 arrest made in Brixton during April

for instance, only 100 have so far been tried. By holding Sunday courts, and by allowing charges arising from the riots to jump the queue, the courts can do something to ensure that retribution is quick. By passing exemplary sentences where appropriate, they may deter future rioters. But decisions about sentencing must be left to the courts.

It is particularly important that magistrates should not feel pressured into taking short cuts with justice for the sake of public opinion, or to please the Home Secretary or Parliament. There are certain basic principles which must be left inviolate. Indeed, it is particularly necessary at a time when feelings are running strong, that the legal system should be seen to retain its sense of fairness and dignity. In particular, there must be no diminution in the interests of speed of the accused's right to legal representation or a relaxation of the criteria governing the granting of legal aid. The Courts must also continue to ensure that they do not impose custodial sentences on offenders without obtaining the usual relevant information about them from social workers, probation officers and the like. Rioters are no less entitled to the proper procedures of the law than burglars or rapists.

There is, however, one respect in which the law itself has proved inadequate. The arguments in favour of a modified and circumscribed return of the Riot Act are persuasive. The Act of 1714, repealed in 1967, made it an offence to remain on the scene of a riot one hour after a magistrate or other holder of high office had called on the mob to disperse. The advantages of a law along those lines are pertinent to some (though not all) of the recent riots. Because it is so often difficult for the police to attribute particular actions to identified individuals, offenders are going free. Yet those who participate in a riot, even if they are not throwing a petrol bomb or smashing a window, are in a real sense responsible for the consequences of the disturbance. They are committing a crime against the public peace, by contributing to the feeling of fear on the part of innocent parties caught up in the tumult, and in the community generally. By their very presence, they play their part in generating the mob hysteria that leads to violence, even if

they are not themselves violent.

There would certainly be an element of rough justice about using the Riot Act. Some ringleaders will escape apprehension while some lesser fry — and even genuine innocents — will be ensnared. But people who remain willingly on the scene of a riot, having been given an opportunity to leave, can hardly claim that they are totally "innocent" parties.

There are important practical considerations. What if the riot is a moving one, not settled in a convenient spot to allow the dispersal proclamation to be made? How can it be assured that those at whom the order is aimed know about it, especially in conditions of confusion and noise? How long should be given to the rioters to disperse? In many circumstances, an hour might be considered too long — much harm can be done within that time. But the difficulties of dispersing must also be considered, especially in enclosed or semi-enclosed spaces with limited egress. And what if the crowd does disperse, only to regroup later, elsewhere?

If a Riot Act is introduced, offences under it should be summary, triable by magistrates only, with their normal maximum sentencing powers — six months imprisonment and/or a £1,000 fine. To make a Riot Act offence triable by jury would negate many of its advantages, especially that of speed and simplicity. By the nature of the offence, the facts and the offender's identity will not be in issue.

But there need to be safeguards if the law is not to be abused. There must be certainty that the events made subject to such a law be genuine riots and not demonstrations or meetings with some peripheral elements of violence. The law must be couched in such a way as to exclude the possibility of the police being able to declare a riot where none exists, in order to make it easier for them to make arrests. For that reason, a magistrate should have to consent to each separate use of the Act. So that the Act did not remain on the statute books for longer than was necessary, it should be made renewable by Parliament at regular — say six-monthly — intervals, and it should not be renewed unless the state of unrest in our cities justified a renewal. It is to be hoped that it would not, like its predecessor, burden the statute book for 250 years.

## AMERICA NEEDS A MIDDLE EAST POLICY

Mr Philip Habib has begun his third attempt at defusing the crisis over Lebanon with the omens slightly more favourable than on previous occasions. The Israeli raids on Palestinian bases inside Lebanon have not helped. But there have been no major incidents between Israel and Syria itself since Mr Habib's last visit in May. The siege of Zahle, where Syrian troops and Lebanese Christian forces first clashed, has been lifted. The ceasefire arranged with the help of the Arab League is admittedly fragile, since there is still no effective third force to police it, but at least a relative quiet prevails.

The Syrian surface-to-air missiles, which have been the focus of Israeli anger and concern, remain in place. Mr Habib will find it no less difficult than before to find a formula enabling the Syrians to withdraw their weapons without losing face. But the main obstacle is uncertainty over the future policies of the new Israeli Government. Mr Begin seems confident that despite negotiations he will be able to form a government involving the three religious parties and Tami, the group which claimed to represent the interests of Oriental Jews. Both the religious parties and Tami find Mr Begin's emphasis on Israel's right to the biblical lands of the Jewish people congenial, and applaud his

tough stand toward surrounding Arab states, including Syria.

Mr Begin's strident election rhetoric may not be translated into policy decisions, but if it is it could seriously reduce the chances of peace not only in Lebanon but also in the Middle East as a whole. In particular, the re-emergence of a dogmatic and determined Mr Begin would augur ill for progress toward Palestinian self-government on the West Bank, especially when taken together with the equally intransigent and short-sighted attitude of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

There will be an attempt to breathe new life into the talks on Palestinian autonomy within the Camp David framework when Mr Begin and President Sadat host the next summit meeting in Alexandria at the end of the month. The Camp David process is far from exhausted, and there have been suggestions that Mr Habib — if he proves successful in Lebanon — might be the man to help get the autonomy talks moving again. But neither Mr Habib nor any other intermediary is able to operate within the framework of a coherent American policy toward the Middle East. After six months in office, the Reagan Administration has still not laid down a clear line on key issues in the region, as the muddle over

the supply of F-16 fighters to Israel demonstrates.

One reason for this delay has clearly been the election period in Israel. Now that a clearer picture is emerging there is no longer any good reason for Washington to prevaricate. Neither Lebanon nor the autonomy proposals can be considered in isolation. The autonomy talks in particular suffer from the drawback that neither the Palestinians themselves nor Arab states directly affected — such as Jordan — are involved, and without them no solution to the West Bank problem is likely to stick. The attempt by the European Community to break this deadlock by drawing the PLO into peace negotiations while insisting on Israel's right to exist has so far been unsuccessful, partly because the Americans have so far refrained from associating themselves with it in any way.

The chief merit of the European approach — for all its difficulties — is that it acknowledges the fact that a comprehensive peace settlement can be achieved only if the peace process is broadened beyond Camp David, possibly — though not necessarily — with United Nations involvement. Unless both the second Begin Administration and the Reagan Administration recognize this, the Middle East could face — at best — a period of political stagnation.

## Portrait of Khomeini

From Mr Hassan Arab  
Sir, Mr Heikal's articles in *The Times* (July 6, 7, 8), contain a number of inaccuracies. The Shah had no general called Afshar, he had a foreign minister by that name. Khomeini did not go straight to Neauphle when he landed in Paris, he went to Bani Sadr's flat. Landing in Tehran, he did not go to his lodgings but to the public cemetery. It is not true that the Americans "built up" Shariat Madari as an alternative to Khomeini. He was already the senior Ayatollah in Iran with enormous prestige, etc.  
Of greater consequence is, however, the time lag in Mr Heikal's picture of Khomeini. This is what he was and not what

he is. Whether the changes that came over Khomeini were due to circumstances bringing out the real man or the corrupting influence of power, is for psychologists to argue. The fact is that the Ayatollah has turned out to be a man with little or no respect for concepts which are the foundations of civilized society, Islamic or otherwise.

Sovereignty of the people has gone by the board with the establishment of tutelage of the clerical (*Velayat-e faqih*). In a recent letter published abroad, Bani Sadr reveals that when he was set up as the Ayatollah's favourite candidate for presidency, he was told that voting by the people was really unnecessary and if these motions were gone through it was mainly for the sake of world public opinion.

Freedom in all its aspects is more restricted now than any time in modern Iranian history. Justice is meted out in a revolutionary fashion contrary to the constitution and contrary to Islam. People are being executed not only for what they do but for what they think.

The roots of the mismanagement of the Iranian revolution, on which so many people placed their hopes, can be directly traced to the personality of Khomeini. Also, I find Mr Heikal's delineation of this personality sadly deficient. With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,  
HASSAN ARAB,  
Former Editor, *Farhang Khayyar* (Mansh),  
London, SW1,  
July 8.

## Curbing strikers' immunities

From the Director General of the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors  
Sir, It is unfortunate that the Director General of the Engineering Employers' Federation, in his letter on June 11, categorises those who are now pressing for a further tranche of trade union legislation as being sincere but extreme and "remote from industrial reality".

He is, of course, speaking for an industry where, no doubt on account of convenience rather than principle, the closed shop is widely adopted, and where any proposal for its immediate curtailment, let alone abolition, is regarded with horror. But is this the true test of whether further legislation is now appropriate? I suggest not. On the international plane it is incontrovertibly true that British economic performance has been in severe decline as compared with that in other industrialised countries.

In the conclusion to its Green Paper on trade union immunities, the Government notes that industrial relations have acted as a barrier to increased productivity and efficiency and have been bedevilled by strikes and other forms of industrial action.

Many firmly believe that if we are to have any hope of restoring our position in the world further legislation to restore a better balance of power in industry and, in particular, to roll back the frontiers of the closed shop, is urgently necessary in the forthcoming session of Parliament.

No reasonable person believes that there is any similarity between the position of the unions today and that in 1906, when the concept of immunities was introduced, and yet many are seduced by the slogan that "the law must be kept out of industrial relations".

My own federation has put forward proposals for early changes in trade union immunities which we believe will leave unions free to fulfil their legitimate functions, but which will curb the unofficial disruptive action unions so frequently condone, often regardless of the damaging effect on their members' livelihoods, and restore the freedom of individuals to join or not to join a union.

The risk that government of different political persuasion might subsequently amend or reverse the law cannot be allowed to stand in the way of sensible well thought-out provisions on such matters as the closed shop, union immunities, and the enforceability of procedural agreements. Public opinion, and many trade unionists themselves, support the need of further action now.

Yours faithfully,  
DEREK GAULTER,  
The Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors,  
Cowdroy House,  
6 Portgall Street, WC2.

## Civil Service dispute

From Colonel B. J. Coombe  
Sir, The income of many public service pensioners has suddenly been stopped by the action of civil servants in the Paymaster General's Office. To continue to survive they must either borrow money or use up their savings.

This cold-blooded action against innocent, helpless victims is causing acute anxiety and financial loss.

The Government, however, is benefiting from this situation in so far as the pensioners' money remains at its disposal.

It would be some compensation to the victims, and surely no more than is justly due, if the Government to pay interest to the pensioners on their money which has been so forcefully "borrowed" from them.

Yours faithfully,  
B. J. COOMBE,  
The Dormy House,  
Limpsley Stoke,  
Bath.

## Record rainfall

From Mr Hector McDonnell  
Sir, When yesterday's thunderstorm (July 9) broke over London, I was sitting in the round room of the Public Record Office in Chancery Lane reading a seventeenth-century document. Within a few minutes water came through the roof directly above where I was sitting, and fell on the document.

I matched the book up and took it to a drier place but those few seconds of exposure to the miniature cascade had been enough to obliterate some of the writing on several folios.

The P.R.O. cannot afford to keep their reading room roof in order then surely it would be better to shut the room, at whatever inconvenience to scholars, than to subject the nation's documentary heritage to such absurd and unnecessary hazards.

I am, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
HECTOR McDONNELL,  
14 Moore Street, SW3,  
July 10.

## Language problems

From Mr J. D. Rock  
Sir, The Navy boards a French vessel with a boarding party of which not one member speaks English, even when asked, as in the case of the British boats playing daily between Harwich and Hook van Holland find it unnecessary to make announcements in any language other than English, even when asked, as in the case of the British boats playing daily between Harwich and Hook van Holland, that anyone on board who is not sailing leave the ship.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN D. ROCK,  
9 Pine Croft,  
Chapelton,  
Sheffield.

## Setting limits on higher education

From Dr Nevil Johnson

Sir, Professor Perkin is right to draw attention (July 10) to the fact that successful economic performance during the past two decades or so has nearly always been associated with a rising rate of participation in higher education and that the British position in this respect looks increasingly unfavourable. But he detracts from the force of his remarks by over-indulgence in unnecessary party polemics when it would have been more useful to have taken the matter further by asking why we have got into this restrictive approach to higher education opportunities. I will make two suggestions about this.

First, we have long accepted both the desirability and the practicability of working to more or less rigid targets for total student numbers. As far as I know none of the countries cited by Professor Perkin operates on such a basis or would resume it as easily as we have. Their financial planning allows generally for wider margins of error and fluctuation. Indeed, if young people choose freely what subjects to study and if the take-up rate in places in higher education itself fluctuates over time, why should we assume that it is rational to plan with such obsessive tidiness? And for that matter why should not staff-student ratios fluctuate somewhat according to the needs of the country as regarded on all sides as holy cows?

Second, there can be little doubt that the concern of governments and of the University Grants Committee with controlling the costs of the university system and gearing these to the state of the economy has been heavily influenced by the manner in which most home students are financed. This in turn links with the policy of charging full-cost fees (or something that claims to approach that). Again we are the odd man out. In most Western societies the methods of financing students are far more varied than in Britain and generally include more "self-help" than we allow. *Par passu* fees tend to be much lower, though this is less true of private universities in the United States. If we take seriously the desirability of widening opportunities, it is hard to understand why we continue to adhere to methods of student support and of university charging which necessarily tend to restrict opportunities.

If there is a criticism to be made of the current policy towards universities it is that the Government shows few signs of recognising that, like our economic competitors, we need to open doors rather than close them. To achieve this we need to move to conditions in which more young people can get into higher education by their own efforts and finance themselves wholly or in part whilst studying.

A Government committed to encouraging individual responsibility should surely realise this. One needs only to talk to students from Canada, Western Germany or the United States to appreciate how far we still are from a university system that is open and encourages people to depend on their own feet. And this is not

without some bearing on our economic decline.

Yours sincerely,  
NEVIL JOHNSON,  
Professional Fellow,  
Nuffield College,  
Oxford.

From Mr H. E. Fenton  
Sir, The contents of Professor Perkin's letter show that the more selective standards of university intake in this country produce a better quality output (and far fewer frustrated drop-outs) than the more liberal ones in other, richer places. Yet that's not the way he sees it. He prefers to attribute the success of our students to the supreme intrinsic qualities of our university teaching. A bit unsound, I should have thought.

Yours faithfully,  
H. E. FENTON,  
4 Raby Place,  
Bath.

From Professor Steven Rose  
Sir, So London's new Vice-Chancellor regards a 10 per cent slimmer university system as "beneficial" (*The Times*, July 7) though he fails to explain why this country is so uniquely talented that a smaller proportion of 18-year-olds go on to higher education here than in any of our industrial competitors. What he does not seem to appreciate is the effect such cuts are having on a generation of young academics and researchers.

Today I have been engaged in the selection of a candidate for a largely administrative junior position within my department. There were some 140 applications, the vast majority of them from academics in their late twenties and early thirties, many unemployed or finishing temporary lecturing jobs or post-doctoral appointments in other universities; several with more than 30 research publications in their curriculum vitae.

Of those we shortlisted their references were unanimous: "but for the university crisis I would have welcomed Dr X to a tenured lectureship in my department". A few years ago, when we advertised such posts, most of the applicants, and appointees, would be fresh graduates in their early twenties. Now there is no way any such applicant would even get close to a shortlist.

Of course, we are delighted to be able to appoint such a strong candidate to our staff. But what of the 139 we did not appoint? How can it be "beneficial" to any university system, any type of higher education, or any sort of national economy, so grotesquely to ignore, frustrate and destroy the talents of our researchers and teachers in their most creative period? It is bad enough to be the victims of Government policy consisting then to the dust heap, but when the leaders of the academic community actually appear to connive at and welcome this destruction, despair turns to anger.

Yours faithfully,  
STEVEN ROSE,  
The Open University,  
Walton Hall,  
Milton Keynes,  
Buckinghamshire,  
July 8.

Taking part  
From Mr D. Wallace Bell  
Sir, Our experience in the Industrial Participation Association confirms that of Lord Carr of Hadley (June 29) that companies that have developed employee participation and involvement are much better placed to bring about changes in their management practices necessary to remain competitive. This is especially so in companies that have concentrated on the direct involvement of all employees at the level of the workplace, rather than formalized structures involving only representatives.

Unfortunately, some managements, responding to the call for more participation, appeared to think that the simple solution was to set up a committee, and were disillusioned when they found it did not bring about any significant changes in their management practices. Committees may be necessary as a forum for discussion of major issues of policy, but they are no substitute for the personal involvement of the individual in relation to his own job.

I endorse Lord Carr's call for the Government to be seen to be giving a lead in participation, and

not only verbally but by example. It is certainly as much needed in the public sector, for which the Government is ultimately responsible, as in the private sector. But in the end participation depends on a positive initiative being taken by management, and a positive response being forthcoming from the shop floor. Many companies have shown how this can be achieved, and have found that their past investment in the development of participation practices is now paying dividends in improved performance, flexibility and adaptability to changing circumstances.

With more participation also, leading to greater commitment to the success of the enterprise, there might be less call for controversial labour legislation. Participative companies do not require employment legislation either to force their managements to do the right thing or to prevent their employees or their representatives from doing the wrong one.

Yours faithfully,  
D. WALLACE BELL,  
Director,  
Industrial Participation Association,  
78 Buckingham Gate, SW1,  
June 30.

Deteriorating canals  
From the Chairman of the Inland Waterways Association  
Sir, I must express the extreme concern of my association at the deteriorating state of the nation's waterways administered by the British Waterways Board which is brought about by the continuing lack of government funds.

It has now become evident beyond any doubt that the Government is not providing adequate finance to permit a forward planning programme for which the Inland Waterways Association has been pressing for the past five years. Until the Government do forward planning, it is difficult to see how further needed investment can be made in the waterways.

Additionally, the Government keeps passing legislation which puts vastly increased liability on the board, especially in connection with bridges and reservoirs, but also under regulations of the Health and Safety at Work Act. It is surely the Government's duty to provide the board with the necessary additional finance in order to enable them to fulfil their additional duties under this legislation. The Government must not continue to expect the money to be found from the board's normal revenue.

The IWA has also been pressing

## VAT on church repairs

From the Reverend Richard Hayes  
Sir, I have just returned from making a sponsored bicycle pilgrimage from Ruislip Manor to the home of the Venerable Bede at St Paul's Church, Jarrow. My reason for making this journey was to help raise £9,000 to redecorate the parish church of St Paul, Ruislip Manor, built in 1936 by the admired architect, Nugent Catchesmill-Day. Of this sum £1,200 is required to pay VAT at 15 per cent.

On my journey I stayed at 10 vicarages. In eight cases the churches cared for by my hosts were in need of large sums of money, ranging from £1,500 for immediate repairs following a quinquennial inspection to £240,000. In villages too numerous to count I noted as I passed that restoration appeals had been launched, the average sum needed being £5,000.

Since this work is for repairs — not new building — VAT must be paid. The money that is given in most cases already being taxed. The churches are public buildings, and part of the architectural heritage of our nation, and contribute to the scenic beauty and interest of our towns and rural landscapes. People care about them sufficiently to give voluntarily for their maintenance, and are in my experience horrified when they realize (which they mostly do not) that VAT is charged on repair work.

May the undersigned parish priest make a plea to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the name of all clergy and ministers of all denominations: relieve churches and other bodies which have charitable status from paying VAT for the restoration and repair work on their buildings. This would encourage voluntary effort to maintain important buildings without recourse to Government grants and before further deterioration to fabric is caused by the inevitable delay in collecting enough money to put the work in hand — and pay the tax.

If the Government can offer this encouragement the churches will have more chance of deploying their resources not only in the maintenance of the fabric of places of worship, but also in providing more support for spiritually impoverished young people, and their parents, in our inner city areas. At a time when the venerable tradition seems to be thin, the Government, by making this concession at no great cost to its annual revenue, can support the churches and other charities who are best placed, being deeply involved in the nation's life, to promote the spiritual values which make for a stable and purposeful society.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD HAYES,  
The Vicarage,  
Thurleston Road,  
Ruislip Manor,  
Middlesex,  
July 11.

## Britain's defence role

From Mr Peter Green  
Sir, Britain has made a number of crucial errors of judgment in its post-war history. These include the failure to lead Europe after the war and then subsequently to join the E.E.C. at its inception; too greater belief in the Empire and Commonwealth, supporting a weak pound and the failure to modernise British industry.

On the defence front the decision to equip Britain with Polaris missiles continued the delusion that it was still a major power. This fallacy of an independent nuclear deterrent persists today. Britain is part of Europe and nuclear policy should be a joint effort of European countries. In any case the United States is an ally of Britain and part of Nato and as such provides Britain and Europe with its nuclear power.

If Britain is now to spend £7bn on Trident, especially in view of the recent experience with the £1bn Chevaline, then it will compound all its post-war misjudgments. Britain should now accept its true role in the world and that is of a minor power with limited resources.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER GREEN,  
Haus Gornwald,  
3920 Zermatt,  
Valais,  
Switzerland,  
July 6.

## Fast food

From Mr Andrew Turner  
Sir, Has it occurred to British Rail to hire (to an enterprising, Laid-like entrepreneur) the right to attach a restaurant car to their trains? Would McDonalds, the Savoy or Trusthouse Forte be willing to sustain the British Rail kipper — or extinguish the British Rail sandwich (leading article, January 4)?

I remain, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
ANDREW TURNER,  
22 Northam Gardens,  
Oxford,  
July 6.

## Losing face

From Miss Francesca McManus  
Sir, We should probably go on using the term "clockwise" when all clocks are digital (Peter Burville, July 9), since we use the term "carriage-way" and continue to have signposts designed at a height to be read from horseback.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANCESCA MCMANUS,  
71 Priory Road,  
Kew Gardens,  
Surrey,  
July 9.











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Robbing Peter  
to pay  
Paul? page 21

# Business News

THE TIMES July 14 1981

America on the  
brink of  
recession, page 21

**Stock markets**

FT Index 532.1 up 7.5  
FT Gilt 64.61 up 0.03

**Sterling**

\$ 1.8820 down 115 points  
Index 92.9 down 0.4

**Dollar**

Index 110.1 down 0.4  
DM 2.4260 down 167 pts

**Gold**

\$434.00 down \$4

**Money**

3 mth sterling 13.7-13.8  
3 mth Euro 5 18.1-18.2  
6 mth Euro 5 17.1-17.2

## IN BRIEF

### Pound slips in world markets

The pound lost ground against most currencies on the international money markets yesterday. It dropped 115 points against the dollar to close at \$1.8820. The pound's index against a basket of currencies fell 0.4 to 92.9.

Dealers said that the state of recent gloomy economic predictions about the British economy had contributed to sterling's general weakness, but it had not been the chief factor. The comparative low level of Britain's interest rates continued to be the main influence.

The dollar, which had dropped in Far Eastern markets over the weekend, was initially weak, but improved steadily during the day. However, it did not return to its pre-weekend level and closed with a net loss of 167 points against the German mark.

### £9m factory for Jarrow

A £9m factory, which may employ 20 people full-time, is to be built at Jarrow, on Tyne-side, by Rohm and Haas (UK), a subsidiary of the American chemicals company. The factory, when completed in 1983, will produce Kathon, a biocide which controls bacteria and is used in cooling tower water, paints and cosmetics.

### New North Sea system

Installation of a unique oil production system on the North Sea's Fulmar field was completed yesterday. The 210,000 tonne tanker Medora, is permanently moored there to store oil before transshipping to smaller tankers. First oil from the field, operated by Shell UK Exploration on behalf of Shell-Bas and the Gas Council-Amoco group is due next year.

### BP boosts equities

Equities gained ground yesterday on the London Stock Exchange as the prospect that BP's recent £600m rights issue would be taken up in full continued to grow. Earlier estimates that between 30 per cent and 50 per cent of the 226.8 million new shares would be left with the underwriters have now been discounted.

### Golden handshakes

A £125,000 golden handshake is proposed for Mr Eric Sennow, chairman of United City Merchants, which is the subject of an agreed £15m takeover bid by the Arab Asian Bank. It is also proposed that Mrs Sylvia Sennow and two other directors should receive £7,500 each more than 20 years service to the group.

### Factories for Wales

New factories will be completed at the rate of one a day in the current financial year, the Welsh Development Agency announced today. But Mr Ian Gray, managing director, warned a big effort would be required to fill all the factories, and it was inevitable that a proportion of empty factories would rise.

### Capital inflow

The amount of foreign capital moving into Australia has shown a massive increase. The country's Bureau of Statistics puts the capital inflow for the year to the end of June at £3,625m compared with £755m for the previous year.

### Cocoa agreement

EEC Foreign ministers in Brussels have agreed to give conditional support for the provisional application of a new international cocoa agreement. However, neither the Ivory Coast, the world's biggest cocoa producer, nor the United States, the world's biggest consumer, have given their backing to the agreement, meaning that it has not drawn enough signatories to enter into full application.

## Industrial and manufacturing output drop continues

By David Blake

Industrial output fell again in May, dropping by 0.8 per cent to stand 6 per cent below its level of a year ago.

Manufacturing output fell even more, dropping by a full percentage point to stand 10 per cent lower than in May 1980. The manufacturing figures were depressed by the impact of troubles in the car industry. The figures also suggest that output has started to stabilise at a low level.

The index of industrial production in May stood at 98, compared with a 1975 level of 100. Over the three months to the end of May, output was about half a per cent lower than in the previous three months and about 1 per cent lower if the successful oil and gas industries are excluded. Without the benefits of oil and gas, industrial production in May would have been 91 per cent lower than in the same month in 1980.

If North Sea oil and gas are excluded, output is now 11 per cent below its level in 1975, when the previous recession bit deeply into manufacturing.

Over the three months to the end of May, output fell particularly sharply in the brewing and shoe-making industries. But there were gains in metal manufacture (mostly steel) and in the chemical industry. Most sectors showed little change

## CBI to suggest more public spending cuts

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Business leaders tomorrow will suggest ways that the Government can cut current public spending by £3,000m in each of the next four years.

Members of the policy-making council of the Confederation of British Industry tomorrow will consider an interim report from a task force that it established earlier this year to compile a dossier, based on a questionnaire sent to thousands of member companies, of where savings could be made.

The CBI says the reduction in current government spending, both centrally and locally, as necessary in order that funds can be released for capital investment and for lowering taxes, "is a major responsibility".

The CBI says the reduction in current spending effectively was a major reason for the country's present predicament. Private industry believes that

## Profits fall by £16.8m at Rank

Rank Organisation disappointed the stock market with a £16.8m fall in pre-tax interim profits to £36.7m. The results were well below expectations which ranged from £44m to £51m pre-tax and the shares—closed 30p lower yesterday at 158p.

Mr Harold Smith, chairman, said that since the end of the last financial year there had been a further deterioration in trading conditions affecting many of the group's activities but no further decline was expected during the remainder of the year. He said the group was seeing some improvement in the United States and Far East but no clear sign of recovery in the United Kingdom.

Much of the downturn in the 28 weeks to May 16 was blamed on currency adjustments which sharply reduced the profit contribution from Rank Xerox. Because the Rank Xerox companies' earnings do not come from North America there was no benefit from the strong dollar, while the strength of sterling against European currencies had depressed earnings.

Mr Smith said that £13m of the Rank Xerox contribution was due to currency movements. The scale of currency adjustments during the rest of the year was unlikely to be so severe.

Financial Editor, page 21

## SHARE PLAN HITS BNOC BOND IDEA

A new government emphasis on selling about half of the British National Oil Corporation to the public has called into doubt another plan to sell bonds linked to the price of BNOC's North Sea oil.

It is understood that the Government's resolve to sell BNOC shares has hardened in recent weeks. N. M. Rothschild, the merchant bank retained by BNOC last year, has stepped up its preparatory work.

North Sea oil bonds announced last October as a kind of index-linked investment which would raise funds for BNOC, were widely seen as a substitute for selling part of BNOC's equity.

Sale of BNOC's producing assets has been criticized because the rest of the corporation is relatively unprofitable, and the Government would therefore be deprived of a profitable asset. But the Prime Minister and influential Conservative backbenchers have been pressing for the sale.

Financial Editor, page 21



Mr Brittan in Downing Street yesterday.

## Mr Brittan on the spending tightrope

By John Whitmore

External financing limits for nationalized industries could not be consistently raised or confidence in the system would be undermined, Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, told a Commons select committee yesterday.

Mr Brittan said that he did not consider that the Government had yet reached the point where that confidence was endangered—there was a fine balance to be struck in seeking a combination of flexibility and discipline.

Mr Brittan agreed that the economy was not suffering from an excess of aggregate demand at the moment. But he said that a reduction in the rate of inflation was a precondition to the resumption of growth. The fall in the rate of inflation would leave more room for real growth to be accommodated within the Government's financial targets.

## Advertising deal restrictive

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A restrictive agreement on advertising between the City of Peterborough Estate Agents' Association and Peterborough-based Sharman Newspapers, which is being taken to the Restrictive Practices Court by Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading.

The hitherto secret agreement was placed on the register of restrictive trading agreements yesterday after a complaint from another newspaper to the Office of Fair Trading. Because it was a secret agreement it has now been declared void by Mr Borrie.

Two agreements are involved: a five-year one that ran out last March and a second which began immediately afterwards and was due to run another five years.

## EEC takes hard line on textiles

From Peter Norman, Brussels, July 13

They advocated a form of words in the mandate which would not call out in explicit terms the possibility of cutting back imports into Europe during the recession.

France, with backing from Britain and Italy, was adamant that the commission should be sent to negotiate aware that special steps would have to be taken in the event of falling EEC demand.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Britain's Trade Minister, said afterwards that a "recession mechanism" had been written into the minutes of the meeting.

He said it was agreed that the next Multifibre Arrangement should take account of trends in consumption, and that global import ceilings should be imposed for the most sensitive textile and clothing

## BL chief urges policing of Japan car sales in Britain

By Clifford Webb, Midland Industrial Correspondent

Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of BL, is so angered by the latest Japanese refusal to accept clearly-defined limits on imports of cars and vans to Britain that he is urging the Government to intervene and police the present voluntary arrangements instead of the trade body, The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT).



Sir Michael Edwards (left), BL chairman: Angered by Japanese. Mr Ferdinand Beickler, Vauxhall chairman: Mass redundancies expected.

A senior BL spokesman said last night: "All we got out of the talks in Japan last week between the SMMT and the Japanese Automotive Manufacturers Association (JAMA) was a statement that a broad understanding had been reached. That may have been true of the problems posed by Japanese imports but it was certainly not true of the solution."

"We understood at the previous meeting between the SMMT and JAMA in Portugal the Japanese had given an undertaking to limit both cars and light commercial vehicles to 11 per cent of the market. Now we learn that the Japanese are insisting that no ceiling was agreed on light commercials and they will not accept one now."

"It is clear that only direct government involvement to police these undertakings will give them any chance of becoming effective."

With cars being kept roughly in line—about 0.9 per cent over the 11 per cent barrier of last year—it is easy to see why the Japanese are fighting such a stubborn rear-guard action on light commercials.

From a 2.5 per cent market share in 1979 they reached 12.7 per cent last year and are cur-

rently taking more than 17 per cent.

In the important panel van sector, where they compete with BL's Sherpa, they account for nearly one in four of all sales.

Progress of Japanese commercial vehicles at the expense of British-made ones is also worrying union officials at Vauxhall Motors. They expect to be told of the urgent need for more redundancies to stem mounting losses when they meet Mr Ferdinand Beickler, Vauxhall chairman, today. Last night they were forecasting at least 1,000 jobs to go on top of the 5,700 axed since January.

But there may be worse to come. The unions fear that a recent announcement in Detroit by the parent General Motors that it is reorganizing its worldwide truck facilities could see more 'preference' given to

vehicles produced by its Japanese partner, Isuzu, which is 34 per cent owned. Vauxhall already sells Isuzu pick-ups in Britain, which carry its Bedford badge.

A union official who will be at today's talks said: "We are very concerned at the effect this increasing use of Japanese trucks and vans could have on jobs at Luton and Dunstable. The big worry is that Isuzu vehicles could replace United Kingdom products in key overseas markets like Nigeria where Bedford is the No 1 truck."

"We intend to question Mr Beickler very closely when he presents his six-monthly assessment of Vauxhall's position and prospects to the unions tomorrow. We want a firm commitment that GM will continue to back Bedford as its main European commercial vehicle producer."

## Mobil enters fight in Conoco takeover bid

From Frank Vogt, Washington, July 13

Mobil Corporation is arranging bank loans to make a bid for Conoco in what is now assuredly the largest-scale corporate takeover battle in American history.

News of Mobil's plans came only hours after the Joseph E. Seagram and Sons announcement that it is raising its bid for Conoco. Last week Du Pont topped the original Seagram's offer in a deal that won Conoco's blessing. Now Du Pont is considering raising its offer to fend off the Seagram challenge.

Meanwhile, Texaco is believed to be raising up to \$5,500m (about £2,900m) in the Euromarkets in preparation for some acquisitions of its own. Many brokers on Wall Street believe that Conoco, the ninth largest oil company in America, is going to be Texaco's target.

Mobil is second only to Exxon as America's largest oil company and Texaco just trails Mobil in third place. Du Pont is the largest chemicals company in the United States and Joseph E. Seagram and Sons is the US subsidiary of Seagram, of Canada, the world's largest distiller.

A Mobil bid, seems assured, although the company has not yet announced detailed plans. Mr Rawleigh Warner, the company's chairman, said preliminary studies suggest that the United States authorities would not object to a Conoco merger with Mobil on anti-trust grounds. He added that he

knew Conoco and the business it operated. Conoco is a great company with fine resources and excellent management and personnel.

Many Conoco shareholders may find the latest Seagram offer more attractive than that by Du Pont. Seagram, which on June 25 offered \$73 per Conoco share for 41 per cent of the company in a \$2,500m bid, has now offered \$65 per Conoco share for 51 per cent in a \$3,770 bid.

Du Pont offered \$3,000m for 40 per cent of Conoco shares, giving these shares a \$87.50 price, but it offered 1.6 Du Pont shares for each Conoco share for the remaining 60 per cent of the Conoco equity. The exchange, based on the latest Du Pont share price, amounts to about \$75.50 per Conoco share.

To strengthen its grip on the Conoco relationship, Du Pont has rushed ahead to secure all the cash it believes it needs for the bid. The company announced that it had completed negotiations for a \$3,000m loan agreement with a syndicate of 30 banks headed by Chase Manhattan. Chase is believed to be heading a group putting together a major loan package for Texaco.

Seagram has left little doubt now that it is determined to win the battle and has left the door open for it to make still bigger bids. It said it will extend its July 24 offer deadline if there arise any rival bids.

## NCB wants new ports for exports

By Rupert Morris

The National Coal Board is discussing with port authorities plans to increase deep-water facilities in Britain to enable the Board to meet its target of 15 million tonnes of coal for export by 1985.

New ports may be built on the Clyde and the Tyne and existing facilities improved at Leith in Scotland, Workington and Whitehaven in the North-West, Goole and Immingham in Yorkshire and Swansea and Newport in South Wales.

Sir Derek Ezra, Coal Board chairman, has allocated between £20m and £30m for port investment over the next four years, and is hoping to persuade individual port authorities to contribute substantially as well.

In the North-East, two schemes under consideration are the expansion of existing facilities at Jarrow or the creation of a new port at Jarro Slake. On the Clyde negotiations are under way for the creation of a new port.

The Government's celebrated about-turn in the face of the miners' strike in February has created a completely new atmosphere in the industry, which now aims to double exports and halve imports. The Coal Board is now exporting to 22 different countries, including Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Albania.

The Board has been able to secure better prices recently thanks to the fall in sterling against the dollar.

## East Midland Allied Press Limited

# A year of continuing growth

- \* Turnover increased from £32.3 million to £39.8 million
- \* Record Profits - up 23% at £4,052,000
- \* Increased Dividends - total payment 3.5p net per share (2.75p)

From the statement by the Chairman, Mr. Frank Rogers:-



The continuing expansion of the business will depend on the growth of the U.K. economy and an improvement in the efficiency of British industry.

We have the financial and human resources to continue with our chosen strategy, both by acquisition and internal growth. Your Directors are confident that the Company's progress will continue.

Copies of the Company's Report & Accounts can be obtained from:  
The Secretary, EMAP Limited,  
8 Herbel Hill, London EC1R 5US

*Frank Rogers*

## PRICE CHANGES

Rises		Falls	
BP	8p to 295p	Pittsburgh Bros	11p to 326p
Grindlays Hds	9p to 215p	Shell Trans	16p to 366p
J and Secs	13p to 336p	Stock Conv	10p to 370p
Manson Fin	12p to 95p	Sun Life	10p to 319p
Mercantile Hse	25p to 939p	Thorn EMI	22p to 422p
Falls		Powell Duffryn	
Frit Sugar	6p to 330p	Rank Ory	11p to 253p
K Collins	2p to 13p	Sedley PB	13p to 159p
Guthrie Corp	2p to 125p	Sun Alliance	6p to 890p
Warwick Con	12p to 125p	Vibroplant	10p to 200p
Municipal	70p to 750p		



## Technology news

## X-ray 'detective' traps food pack contaminants

By Bill Johnstone

X-rays are now being used in the food industry to detect foreign bodies trapped during packaging.

The technique, known as Cimet Art, is the result of a four-year development by Perless Control Systems and is being marketed worldwide by Rank Pullin Controls, part of the Rank Precision Industries Group.

Each packet on the production line is bombarded with mild X-rays for about 40 milliseconds (thousandths of a second). The resulting ray is picked up by a camera, which is then able to build up a picture of the inside of each container.

The units are controlled by a minicomputer into which details such as the density level of the product have been fed. Comparison of the actual with the norm gives an indication that the container is either contaminated or the quality unacceptable.

In the past it has been possible to detect metal in many packing processes by the use of electro-magnetic fields.

But the new system of detecting metal contamination can be used in a wide range of applications using the same basic principle. These include automatic analysis of the fat content and consistency in meat or poultry; consistency of dairy, baking and confectionery products; and even the level of filling in sandwich biscuits and soft-centre confectionery.

In the case of the meat scan a histogram of the fat content can be prepared after analysis in the computer. Monitoring yogurt quality is another example, whereby the fruit content in each pack can be measured quickly.

Even minute contaminations resulting from the recycling of containers are easily detected during the 35 cycles normally expected of most types of containers.

The system has a picture store into which a complete photograph of the X-rayed unit can be retained. Normally the contaminant will trigger another mechanism, which will remove it from the line.

A typical system for a four-line production complex will cost about £150,000.

## Optical fibre signalling

British Telecom has taken delivery of equipment to be used for the production of fine optical fibres, which could replace copper cable as the most common method of transmitting telecommunication signals.

The system is the result of development over 18 months at the Borehamwood headquarters of Stancell. It has been installed at British Telecom's Martlesham Heath research laboratory and will work in



Technology takes over on the milk round. A Brighton dairy, Corzofords, has equipped its salesmen with hand-held computer terminals made by UCSI Microsystems. They are used on the rounds to record changes such as cancellations and extra purchases, and cash received. The units can handle up to 1,000 different products, all coded separately. On returning from the rounds the terminals are connected to a small Burroughs computer for processing.

conjunction with machinery already there.

The device takes glass about one inch in diameter and in lengths of about three feet, called "preforms", which are processed to produce tiny strands the width of a human hair. The preform is passed through a furnace with an operating temperature of about 2,000 degrees Centigrade. The resultant small fibre is then coated with resin and eventually some form of vinyl for protection. It is then spooled after drawing through a capstan.

The corporation intends to have about 450 kilometres of such fibre cable laid around the United Kingdom by the end of next year.

Fibre optical cabling is expected to revolutionise totally the transmission by cable of telecommunication signals. Its capacity is far greater than that of normal copper. About 2,000 separate signals can be sent down the tiny glass strand.

Most telecommunication users have been experimenting with the potential of the fibre, which has electronic characteristics which allow signals that need a large-frequency spectrum to be transmitted without distortion.

Fibre also has the characteristic of carrying signals for far greater distances without boost-

## Bank plan may finance Soviet gas pipeline

From Peter Norman

Brussels, July 13  
A way may have been found to unblock the stalled negotiations on the biggest East-West trade deal.

According to the *Platow Brief*, a West German economic newsletter appearing in Frankfurt, Deutsche Bank has put forward new proposals on financing a pipeline for natural gas involving several Western countries and the Soviet Union.

The project envisages delivery of 40,000 million cubic metres of gas from the Yamal Peninsula in Northern Siberia along a 5,000-kilometre pipeline supplied mainly by West German firms.

It ran into difficulties earlier this year when, against a background of rising interest rates, the Soviet Union and a German banking consortium were unable to agree on the terms of a 10,000m Deutsche mark (£2,150m) credit to finance the purchase of the pipeline and other equipment. There also has been disagreement over the price the Soviets would charge for the gas.

The Deutsche Bank refused today to confirm or deny that it had put forward new financing proposals that reportedly would cost the Soviets about 11 per cent a year. A spokesman for Mannesmann, the main supplier of pipes, said his company knew nothing of the proposals.

In Essen, Rubagas, which is negotiating to buy the portion of the gas destined for West Germany, said the talks on the price were still in progress and that the company did not feel that it was under pressure to complete the deal quickly.

Herr Kurt Becker, the West German Government spokesman, said talks were continuing on the pipeline deal.

## DEAL WITH NEW TOWN DENIED

An allegation in *Computing* magazine that Cumbria Development Corporation and Burroughs Machines were involved in a deal for a new town has been strongly denied.

The corporation today issued a statement saying there was no mention of Control Data or any other competitor in the documents when its contract with the Scottish Office and Burroughs was agreed in 1956. It pointed out that Control Data did not exist at that time.

"In all the circumstances, we cannot regard the statement in *Computing* magazine as having any credibility, and we consider that it is up to the magazine to justify its story," the statement said.

A spokesman for the magazine said no specific date had been mentioned in the article, nor had it stated that Control Data or any other similar firm had applied to set up in the new town. "We stick by our story," he added.

## Oil companies seek lower Opec prices

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Hard-line oil producers in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) are facing renewed pressure from oil companies to lower their high official prices amid the mushrooming world oil glut.

Saudi Arabia is maintaining output at near-record levels of 10.3 million barrels per day (bpd) and selling at \$32 a barrel—the lowest in Opec—in an effort to force other producers to bring their official prices down.

But reports from the Middle East yesterday suggest that Oman is the latest producer to face renewed pressure to cut posted prices, while over the next few months the leading African producers are likely to cut production.

Oman cut prices to \$36.50 a barrel for the three months to the end of September but, according to the *Middle East*

*Economic Survey*, is under pressure to make a further reduction to \$34 to \$35. One major Japanese purchaser recently refused to buy at the new lower Omani price but offered \$34.50.

Meanwhile, the magazine forecasts that leading African producers—Nigeria, Libya, Algeria and Gabon—were expected to reduce by more than half their daily production of slightly over 5 million bpd earlier this year.

This month, production from the African oil-producing nations is likely to amount to 2.7 million bpd, with experts forecasting a more significant fall next month and in September. Other producers, including Mexico and Dubai, have experienced a falloff in production due to the growing world surplus.

Many countries within Opec believe that demand will improve in the second half of the

year, but the oil company executives see the enormous build-up in stocks as a brake on any significant upturn in demand. Stocks are estimated to be 750m barrels above normal levels, and although so far there is little sign of the producer countries flinching from their policy of maintaining high official price levels, the possibility of talks between Saudi Arabia and the other Opec countries is not ruled out.

The tough policy on pricing is also hitting the companies, and the latest issue of the authoritative *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly* reported yesterday that companies with an equity interest in Libyan and Nigerian oilfields were selling their supplies at discounts of up to \$4 a barrel below the \$40 official level.

## CBI asks Heseltine to stop extra rate rise

By Clifford Webb, Midland Industrial Correspondent

Midlands industrialists yesterday appealed to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, to take immediate action to dissuade the Labour-controlled West Midlands County Council from enforcing an "irresponsible" supplementary rate increase.

In a letter to Mr Heseltine, Mr Chris Walliker, regional chairman of the Confederation of British Industry, pointed out that a planned government ceiling on rate increases would come too late to keep West Midlands firms from having to raise average £30m, resulting in more closures and loss of jobs.

Mr Heseltine has already "fined" the council by cutting £7m from its grant aid because of overspending on the current budget. In anticipation of further "fines" after the introduction of a 14p-in-the-pound supplementary rate—making a 48 per cent increase for the year—the council has already included a possible £47m in grant withdrawals in its latest budget.

Mr Walliker said local redundancies had risen by more than 100,000 in the past year, and currently some 200,000 workers were on short time in the West and East Midlands. Many stable



Heseltine: letterplea

industries were working below 60 per cent of capacity. He complained that when these and other points were put to county leaders at a recent meeting with the CBI, they were all disregarded in favour of manifesto commitments such as reduced bus fares.

Mr Walliker said that, since legislation could not be enacted in time, "I ask you therefore to consider what additional steps might be taken to dissuade the county council from its intended course of action."

## Ad agencies back British Posters

By David Hewson

The proposed scrapping of British Posters, the joint marketing company owned by 10 key poster contractors, may make the medium less competitive against rival media, the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising has warned.

Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Minister for Consumer Affairs, is expected to order the break up of British Posters following a report from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission earlier this month which criticized the company. It found that British Posters, whose members control nearly 80 per cent of United Kingdom poster sites, operated codes of conduct which were likely to have a serious effect on restricting competition.

The IPA, which represents most of the country's advertising agencies, said it had been critical in the past about some aspects of the British Posters operation, notably in the area of package quality. But it deplored the British Posters members' abandonment of what it said was the most important benefit introduced by the company—pre-selected site packages covering a specific area.

## Bulgaria tempts the West with finance

Sofia, July 13—Bulgaria, disappointed by the West's response to its 1980 joint-venture law, has indicated it might go one step further and advance credits to encourage Western investment.

Mr Athanas Guinev, Bulgaria's first deputy minister of foreign trade, said that credits at "less than the United States prime rate" may be extended through the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank.

Mr Guinev said that a joint venture could be arranged in as little as two months and he emphasized that Bulgaria would be "flexible".

Western observers attribute the general lack of interest in Bulgaria to the smallness of the economy and to gaps in infrastructure.

Bulgaria's 1980 joint-venture law offers an exceptionally lenient taxation plan with a general rate of 20 per cent and

another 10 per cent on profits repatriated to the West. China, by comparison, levies a flat rate of 33 per cent plus an additional 10 per cent on repatriated profits.

Bulgaria is the world's largest producer of forklift trucks and is currently modernizing engine and rear axle production in this category.

It does not produce any passenger cars but expanding production of utility vehicles.

## FOREIGN

## Restructuring at Pan Am

Financially troubled Pan American World Airways will announce a cost-cutting programme today, which probably will result in substantial service and personnel cutbacks, the Miami Herald has reported.

A company spokesman told the paper that William Waltrip, president of Pan Am's airline division, would announce the restructuring.

A Pan Am official who has been briefed on the realignment told the Herald that the cutbacks would be substantial and would affect south Florida, where the airline has 6,500 employees.

James Arey, Pan Am public relations director, said in New York that the reports of service and personnel cutbacks were incorrect.

Asked about route reductions, he said, "When you do something like this, there can be service adjustment."

## Elf bid questioned

International Minerals & Chemical Corporation, said it told United States officials that the proposed takeover of Texasgulf by Societe Nationale Elf Aquitaine may violate United States antitrust laws. An International Minerals spokesman said that Elf may be interested in diverting a large chunk of Texasgulf's fertilizer and fertilizer ingredients to France.

## Aid pledge

Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, and his counterparts from Mexico, Venezuela and Canada have said they are willing to funnel aid, trade incentives and investments to Caribbean and Central American nations in an effort to head off social unrest. The officials met in Nassau over the weekend.

## Australian deficit

Australia brought in record levels of imports and capital in the first half of 1981, while exports showed a slight increase in the value of exports, according to preliminary estimates in Canberra. The trade balance showed a deficit of \$2,922m (£1,212m), compared with a \$2,750m surplus in 1979-80.

## Pressure on Oman

Oman faces pressure from customers for lower oil prices despite a recent cut from \$33 to \$36.50 a barrel from July 1, the *Middle East Economic Survey* said.

## 900 jobs lost at Rollei

More than 900 of almost 4,000 workers at the Rollei Singapore (PTE) plant were to be made redundant today.

## China trade total up

China's foreign trade totalled 30,400m yuan (£3,000m) in the first half of 1981, an 18.8 per cent increase over the same period in 1980.

## Woodworkers strike

About 36,000 woodworkers went on strike yesterday in British Columbia after 14 hours of negotiations failed to reach a settlement.

## \$2.2m loan to Gabon

The European Investment Bank has loaned Gabon some \$2.2m (£1.2m) to develop the production of uranium and hydroelectricity.

## Japan-Soviet accord

The Soviet Union has agreed to terms for Japanese credits of \$400m (£210m) that will enable it to purchase 750,000 tonnes of large-diameter steel pipes from four companies here, Nippon Steel said. The Russians will pay 7.75 per cent interest over five years.

## Greek shipping strike

Greece's 16,000 ships' engineers began a three-day strike yesterday. The strike has been declared illegal by Greek courts.

## Mexico to spend less

Mexico will cut public spending by 4 per cent this year because of the decline in oil revenue, President José Lopez Portillo said.

## Hiring by Ford

Ford plans to take on 900 workers at its Cologne-Niehl plant to increase production of the Fiesta model.

## Car plant study

Toyota motor sales company has completed a feasibility study on an aluminium car parts plant in British Columbia, Canada.

# RAS

## RIUNIONE ADRIATICA DI SICURTA'

MILAN - ITALY

The Company's Accounts for the year ended December 31, 1980 were approved at its Annual General Meeting held on June 30, 1981 with Mr. Ettore Lelli in the chair. These Accounts mark a significant yardstick on which the company's future performance can be measured, as they provide the first combined figures of both Riunione Adriatica di Sicurtà and L'Assicuratrice Italiana following the merger of this former subsidiary into RAS.

Results achieved in the Company's various lines of business are reviewed in detail in the Directors' Report.

Overall premium income from direct insurances amounted to Lit. 831.9 bn. Of this total, Lit. 459.7 bn. was attributable to direct premiums written in Italy, where volume rose by 19.3% in the individual life account, 20% in the Fire Account, 24.4% in the Motor Liability Account, 34% in the General Motor Account, 20.6% in the Personal Accident Account, 24% in the General Liability Account, and 21% in the Theft Account.

Loss ratios were maintained at acceptable levels in virtually all the Company's principal lines.

Proposals were adopted to pay a dividend of Lit. 1,400 per share (1979: Lit. 1,200), and also for a scrip issue of Unione Subalpina di Assicurazioni shares to be allotted to all RAS's existing shareholders to mark the special occasion of the merger.

Elections were also made to the Statutory Audit Committee, on the expiry of its three-year term of office; while Lord Thornercroft was formally elected to the Board following his earlier co-option as a Director.

The dividend is payable as from July 21, 1981 and the scrip stock will also be allotted as from that date.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOUNTS (A)  
RAS ONLY, DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN BRANCH OFFICES

	1980
Premium Income	374,688,168
Investment Income	43,728,816
Claims, Maturities and other Benefits paid	206,921,383
Insurance Reserves, Non-Life Branch	307,877,129
Insurance Reserves, Life Branch	259,535,339
Life Sums assured	1,936,376,026
Share Capital	9,727,539
General Reserves	115,386,366
Profit for the year	2,089,626

## PREMIUM INCOME OF THE RAS GROUP (ITALY AND ABROAD)

	Billion Lire
1976	1,800
1977	1,700
1978	1,600
1979	1,500
1980	1,400
1981	1,300
1982	1,200
1983	1,100
1984	1,000

## SALES OF THE RAS GROUP

Premium income breakdown in 1980 (in £)

RAS (in Italy and abroad)	374,688,168
Other Italian Group Companies	58,849,467
Foreign Group Companies	364,045,157
Total premiums	797,582,792

## RAS Group, Life Business

Total Sums assured £ 4,043,039,951

## Business appointments

## Sir Gordon Booth joins Hanson board

Sir Gordon Booth has become a director of Hanson Trust.

Mr N. Kruger has joined the board of Lomax.

Mr R. L. Keiller has been named human resources director for the European region of Unilever's Engineering Products Company. He will be based in London.

Mr W. C. Devorak has been made chairman of Atkins Brothers (Hosiery) after the retirement of Mr D. Styles, who has been chairman for the past five years.

Mr Richard A. P. King and Mr Dennis P. Murphy have been appointed non-executive directors of Cussons Investments.

Mr Kenneth W. Cotterill has been named a non-executive director of Farmac's International division from Australia.

Mr Gerry E. Hirst has become managing director of Bligg and Hill Properties. Mr G. C. Matthews and Mr D. R. Hedges have joined the company as executive surveyors.

Mr Angus Lawson has been made regional director for Dundee region for I & W Henderson.

Mr A. E. Noble has become finance controller of Booker McConnell.

Mr Derek Sandey, president of the Society of Pension Consultants, has become chairman of the Occupational Pensions Schemes Joint Working Group.

Mr Brian H. Pearce has been appointed chairman of Pearce Group Holdings, succeeding Mr J. H. G. Pearce who is retiring.

Mr Fred R. Allen and Mr Michael E. Short have become joint managing directors.

Mr J. McNally has been made

group director, business development, by FMC. He remains managing director, Agricultural Data-base and becomes chief executive, Lensfield Products. He is also appointed a director of Lensfield Products and Lensfield Research and Development.

Three new directors joining the board of Hanson Acceptances are: Mr F. A. Davies, Mr W. Davies and Mr Moros, Mr Davies has also joined the board of Dorington Investment and Institutional Insurance Brokers.

Mr Gareth Jones, vice-president and partner of Boon, Allen & Hamilton, has been elected to its board of directors. Dr Jones is in charge of the company's London office.

Mr William Pratt Thompson, currently executive director of B. Cars, will be joining Colbert, Geneva, on September 1, as vice-chairman. He will continue to live in London.

Mr Ronald J. Barnes, chief executive of Lombard North Central, has been elected vice chairman of Eurofinas (European Federation of Finance House Associations).

Mr Cameron MacFarlane has become Kwik-Fit-Euro's property director and joins its executive management board.

Mr S. Graham has been appointed to the board of W.G. Spice & Co, a subsidiary of the Guinness Peat Group.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

# Currency switchback at Rank

Adverse currency movements have played havoc with Rank's interim figures. The all-important profit contribution from Rank Xerox was down by £14.2m to £29.8m, with all but £1m of the downturn accounted for by changes in exchange rates. The weakness of sterling towards the end of the half-year against the United States dollar has also contributed to the £3.2m rise in interest charges to £14.1m, with high US and Australian interest rates which affected a considerable part of Rank's debt.

But while the currency fluctuations have been a major cause of the unexpectedly large drop in pretax profits from £53.5m to £36.7m, Rank has still managed to discontinue on a number of other counts. Trading profits from the subsidiaries have risen from £5.6m to £7.7m, but this is despite the fact that the earlier period bore losses of perhaps £3m from the television and radio manufacturing activities, and from the film production side which have all been closed. So the underlying trend from the continuing operations has been downwards.

The Australian industrial and consumer products operations, where Rank was expecting further improvement this year, have evidently suffered badly from an industrial dispute in the wake of a plant closure. Meanwhile in the United Kingdom the hotels side seems to have done worse, while the industrial activities have been suffering from the recession.

Currencies should be more favourable to Rank during the second half, although Rank Xerox is largely affected by the rate of sterling against European currencies where there has been precious little relief so far. Full-year profits, though, will probably be down from £111m to around £95m. Down 10p yesterday to 158p, Rank yields 9.8 per cent on an unchanged dividend payment. This should be broadly covered by dividends from Rank Xerox, which alleviates any worries about the shortfall of current cost earnings.

investors, so that, if traded, they would pass through the Eurobond clearing systems. Further, the month in question was one in which, for currency reasons, investors were moving out of sterling instruments into dollars. To a degree at least this would be reflected in the Euroclear figures.

The first half of this year is in any case a poor guide to the true strength of the Deutschmark sector. For much of the time it has been effectively closed thanks to a weak currency, rising interest rates and a policy of discouraging capital exports. On a longer-term basis there is no doubt that the foreign Deutschmark sector has much greater depth than its sterling counterpart.

The ending of exchange controls has undoubtedly encouraged much more arbitrage between foreign and domestic securities, with the burgeoning building market playing an increasing role. But the perspective lies in the continuing dominance of the dollar sector as a trading medium. Euroclear's dollar turnover accounted for \$84,000m out of a total so far this year of \$93,000m.

Understandable as it is that after two false starts the Government is anxious to push ahead with plans to sell part of the British National Oil Corporation. But such a sale presents some formidable problems, not the least of which is the present reluctance of investors to put up money for oil stocks. Indeed, it is possible that the Government has left it so late that a sale of say half of BNOC will raise noticeably less than if the market had been handled speedily.

The key to obviously be the state of the oil market. Prices have responded to the industrial depression and do not look like recovering until the world economy picks up or — less probably — Opec can really agree on production sharing and cuts. The chances are that when the Government comes to sell BNOC's producing assets, perhaps next spring, the oil market will still be unresponsive.

Difficulties with British Airways, and the very fact that the Chancellor has been obliged to reassert the Government's commitment to "privatisation", imply that the price and terms of a BNOC offer will have to be fixed at the last minute. The Government could then be faced with the double embarrassment of not realising enough to make more than a small dent in the PSBR, while leaving itself with the largely unprofitable parts of BNOC.

Another imponderable will be the proposed North Sea bonds, launched nine months ago only to subside into obscurity. How can bonds remain linked to revenue from BNOC's producing North Sea assets be issued when it is precisely those assets which the legislation allows the Government to sell?

## Ratners Sales under pressure

Jewellers suffered from recession just as severely as other retailers, but last year the problem was made worse, by the rise in the price of gold. After a short-lived jump in demand as consumers tried to outguess the bullion price, jewellers were left to cope with escalating costs. In the case of Ratners, the third largest chain, these rose between 35 and 45 per cent. H Samuel reported a 30 per cent slide in pretax profits in its year to January, but Ratners disappointed the market yesterday with a 35 per cent drop in pretax profits to £2.2m after a 21 per cent drop in interim profits. Hopes of better things were based on much as anything on a fine record: in 1979-80 profits were only £155,000, and £1m as recently as 1975. Inflation-adjusted, the past year's pre-tax profits fell to £1.46m. Jewellers' current cost profits tend to suffer more than those of other retailers because of their high stocks which turn over slowly.

Ratners claims to have held its market share, but the jewelry sector is so fragmented that the group has only around 3 1/2 per cent of total sales, and it has also spent heavily on refurbishing old branches and opening new ones. For both groups, the second half is the key period. Ratners stresses that it does not sell jewelry as an investment, which is as well because customers are becoming more aware of the lack of investment attraction in jewelry. Profits should recover gently to say, £2.5m this year, but expansion costs money as last year's rise in interest charges demonstrated.

The shares slipped 3p to 50p yesterday but look better value than H Samuel which has a stake of almost a fifth in the smaller group.

# Mr Prior's £1,000m 'young unemployed' package goes to Cabinet committee today. Job schemes — robbing Peter to pay Paul?

The £1,000m package of measures which Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Employment, intends to put to Cabinet to take all school leavers out of the dole queue by 1983 is an understandable response to the huge prospects for youth unemployment over the next few years. The number of school leavers who will not have found a job by the Christmas of the year in which they leave is expected to rise to nearly half a million by the end of 1983, more than double the 1980 total, and equivalent to roughly two in every three leavers.

Yet there are dangers that Mr Prior's initiative, and the mounting calls by voluntary groups, MPs and others for some kind of national non-voluntary service or community service programme for young people, will divert attention from the increasingly grim outlook for school leavers among adults.

Indeed, there are fears that the £464m Temporary Short Time Working Compensation Scheme, which subsidizes 700,000 people on short-time work to avoid redundancies, will be axed to help pay for the school leaver package. Other special schemes could also be at risk.

The table lists all special Employment and training measures now run by the Department of Employment and the Manpower Services Commission. It shows the numbers covered now and a year ago and the overall costs of each package for 1980-81 and 1981-82. In total, the measures are estimated to have taken some 305,000 people off the unemployment count in May. This takes into account the fact that not all those out of work register and that not all those in the Temporary Short Time Working Compensation Scheme would be made redundant if the subsidy was withdrawn.

The 1981-82 costings may yet be bumped up further. The MSC has told the Department of Employment that it needs an extra £29m this year to finance another 100,000 places in the Youth Opportunities Programme (YOP) and to top up the 440,000 already planned, if it is to fulfil its present commitments. These



Young people demonstrate against unemployment: programmes to help school-leavers may be stepped up.

are to provide a place for every school leaver still unemployed by Christmas and for other 16 and 17-year-olds out of work for more than six months. This commitment alone will prove increasingly expensive. Mr Prior of course wants to go further, by ensuring that places are available as soon as youngsters leave school for those without a job or further education to go to.

His £1,000m package would represent a near quadrupling of the present cost of the YOP. Yet government plans envisage a 28 per cent fall in spending on employment services of all kinds between 1981-82 and 1983-84 at a time when virtually all economic forecasters are predicting inexorably rising unemployment to well above three million.

Unless the Government is prepared to depart radically from its overall spending plans the chances are that

other employment programmes will be sacrificed to make way for extra spending on youth unemployment.

That joblessness among youngsters has reached explosive proportions is surely no longer in doubt after the disturbances of Brixton, Toxteth and Moss Side. In January 1 in 5 under the age of 19 was registered as unemployed, accounting for a fifth of all those out of work.

By the end of 1983 only 40 per cent of the labour force aged under 18 will be in employment, compared with 70 per cent in 1980; while over 40 per cent will have had no experience of employment, the MSC predicts in its latest Labour Market Quarterly Report.

But there must be doubts over whether the YOP, or the "son of YOP", can cope with the enormous numbers involved. In its brief three-year life the programme has already trailed in size. In 1978-79 it provided 162,000 places and catered for 1 in 8 school leavers. This year it will provide 440,000 places (540,000 places if the MSC has its way) and cater for nearly 1 in 2 leavers.

The MSC is now having to find almost 10,000 new places a week to provide worthwhile work experience and useful training — equivalent to creating a firm the size of Hoover every week. Mr Prior's plan could mean doubling that number.

As it is, there have been persistent complaints that many placements provide "make-work" of little value and no real training; and that unscrupulous employers have exploited the YOP by avoid recruiting permanent staff. Expansion will make vetting all the more difficult.

There is also the question of what happens to youngsters when they finish their placements, which last an average of six months or so. Some are already coming round for their second YOP spell.

In summer, 1979, 7 out of 10 YOP "graduates" found jobs afterwards. A few months later the number was down to 6 in 10. By the end of last year it was fewer than 3 in 10. But supporters of the YOP remain committed and enthusiastic.

"I don't think anyone would have given these youngsters a chance without the programme," says Mrs

Mary Matthews, company secretary of a shopping firm near Doncaster, which employs 23 permanent staff and has been taking boys and girls on work experience placements since the Youth Opportunities Programme started.

Of the other special employment schemes Community Industry, which is run under the auspices of the National Association of Youth Clubs, also caters for 16 and 17-year-olds in areas of high unemployment or the inner cities. They are paid the going rate for jobs intended to benefit the community, like painting and decorating, landscaping and building renovation.

The remaining measures, the Temporary Short Time Working Compensation Scheme, the Job Release Scheme and the Community Enterprise Programme (CEP), all aim to help adults, the first two permanently.

Barrow Council has 19 people on projects at present — everything from clearing estates of rubbish and working on archaeological finds. And it has put in for projects ranging from housebuilding and restoration to care for the elderly and mobile theatre.

Compared with the resources available for young people unemployed adults get a pretty raw deal, with only a third as much being spent on the CEP as on the YOP. Yet the MSC estimates that by the beginning of 1983 nearly a million people will have been out of work for more than a year, close to 1 in 3 of the unemployed total, compared with under 1 in 5 in January, 1981. And the number of long-term unemployed will be rising at some time after the total starts to level off.

The Job Release Scheme — under which workers nearing retirement get a weekly allowance if they make way for someone unemployed — has had little impact, mainly because workers do not want to or cannot afford to retire early. And the TSWCS, which is due to be run down, has mostly been used by employers, particularly in manufacturing, such as textiles and engineering, who believed that their problems were temporary. With the recession stretching out into the future there must be anxiety over redundancies which will follow resumption of the subsidy.

A criticism of all special programmes is that the spending is merely a form of back-door reflation and the money would be better spent on conventional reflation measures such as tax cuts. But the Manpower Services Commission stoutly maintains that special programmes, apart from directing help at the most vulnerable groups, ensure that the maximum number of jobs are created for the cash available, avoiding dissipation into imports or capital-intensive projects.

It is true that employment measures are highly efficient at converting cash into jobs — but most of these jobs are only temporary and do little to ameliorate the appalling problems which sky-high unemployment levels bring in their wake.

But if the Government continues to insist that it cannot expand the economy and hence cannot bring unemployment down, special programmes are all there is and it will be up to the authorities to try to ensure that they offer the best possible deal to those who must rely on them. They ought to remember that unemployment does not stop hurting when the youngsters come of age.

Frances Williams

## The Government's Special Employment and Training Measures

	No. of people covered at		Cost, £m	
	end May, 1981	end May, 1980	1981-82	1980-81
Temporary Short Time Working Compensation Scheme	687,600	111,000	464	415
Job Release Scheme	54,800	66,100	129	138
Youth Opportunities Programme	155,000	80,000	320	209
Community Industry	6,500	6,100	22	19
Community Enterprise Programme (replacing Special Temporary Employment Programme)	14,500	10,000	95	46
Careers service	na	na	6	4
Training for Skills Programme	28,800	12,700	300	300

na = not applicable. \* and April  
Source: Department of Employment

# America on the brink of recession

Washington  
It is too early to say with statistical certainty that the American economy has moved into a recession, but it does now seem probable that economic activity has slumped to a small pace.

The composite index of leading economic indicators, which is a useful guide to trends, fell 1.8 per cent in June, signalling an economic slowdown for at least the next few months. As Chase Econometrics associates' notes recently: "There appears to be no major source of strength for the third quarter."

Economists differ sharply on how long the slump will last and over the amount of growth to be achieved in 1981. The most optimistic projections are likely to be those announced by the White House tomorrow when the Reagan Administration presents its mid-year forecasts. These may well suggest that greater business

and consumer confidence, resulting from the President's tax-cutting strategies, will secure more than 5 per cent real economic growth next year.

Why is the American economy slowing down and where is it heading?

Tighter money policies and higher interest rates have been taking their toll. They have crippled the construction industry, damaged the export sector, dented consumer spending and made business investors cautious.

Real gross national product rose at an annual rate of 8.4 per cent in the first quarter of the year but this was largely due to the strong growth in January. Federal Reserve Board figures show barely any change in the levels of industrial capacity in the past five months and hardly any increase in industrial output in the last four months.

Both sets of statistics would have been negative in the last couple of months had it not been for a quite high level of car production, which lifted the total. The car makers are now paying for that miscalculation. Car sales in June at an annual rate of 7.8 million, the lowest monthly total for a year and imports took a record 28.5 per cent share. Cuts in output by the big manufacturers now seem likely.

The construction industry is a good industrial barometer and

almost every statistical measure of its health has shown a deterioration in recent months. New housing starts, for example, were running at an annual rate of 1.7 million in January and at only 1.15 million in May. "There is little doubt that the high cost of housing relative to income and high interest rates have severely dampened demand," notes a new report by the economists at the Continental Bank.

In the last year real disposable income has fallen by 2 per cent. Savings rates have also fallen to the level that have tended in the past to trigger borrowing caution.

These factors — and high borrowing costs have produced a sharp decline in the rate of credit growth rate, with a rise of only \$1.35bn in May after an increase in April of \$2.33bn. Consumer spending is undoubtedly slowing.

The global slump and the strong dollar are making themselves felt in the export sector. American exports were down by 4.8 per cent in May and 7.5 per cent in April. American goods prove to be more resilient than other countries at times of international economic weakness, in part because of the relative immunity of its international trade in terms of goods, but still the exchange rate changes are hurting.

For example, Argus research in New York concluded in a recent study that the big

American pharmaceutical companies, which derive more than 40 per cent of their earnings from overseas operations, may see their total 1981 profits grow by only 8 to 9 per cent rather than by the 13-14 per cent predicted early this year.

The reason is the decline of foreign currencies in terms of the dollar. Many computer and high technology companies will also suffer for the same reason.

It is hardly surprising that business spending on plant and equipment is now showing signs of slowing as consumer demand falls. Foreign pressures here, public sector spending weakens and interest rates remain high. Each of these factors reinforces the downward trend in the economy.

Some preliminary statistics from the Department of Commerce suggest that real GNP in the second quarter was flat. The Lionel D. Edie and Company forecasting group expects the final data to show a 1.6 per cent real decline in GNP for the second quarter and a 1 per cent fall for the third quarter.

Morgan Guaranty economists suggest that the rate in the present quarter will be 2.2 per cent.

What happens in the fourth quarter and on into 1982 is very much uncertain. The game, especially as Congress has yet to vote on tax cuts.

But more than 70 per cent of 1,500 chief executives recently surveyed by the private Conference Board Research Group of New York said that they will not be stepping up their plant and equipment spending plans.

Frank Vogl

## Euromarkets Sterling plays its part

Can it be that the Eurosterling market, derided as thin and generally difficult to deal in, is actually stronger and more active than the Euro Deutschmark sector, widely seen as second only in depth to the dollar market? Euroclear, the larger of the two systems specializing in the clearing of international securities, has for the first time produced a breakdown of its turnover which shows that dealing in foreign-owned sterling issues totalled the equivalent of \$3,630m up to July 3 this year, while Deutschmark sales totalled \$3,340m and Euroyen issues were a long way behind at \$1,680m.

Turnover does not necessarily equate with strength, however. More than a quarter of Euroclear's sterling business this year was recorded in the latest month, which was a period when the market was digesting so-called "bulldog" issues in the domestic market by the World Bank, Finland, Hydro-Quebec and Nissan Motor. A large part of these issues had been placed in bearer form with foreign

## Business Diary: Carrying pineapples to Samoa

Apia, Western Samoa  
"Where the hell is Samoa?" asks a T-shirt popular here in the streets of the capital.

The short answer is: "In central Polynesia, about 1,500 miles north of New Zealand and 2,300 south of Hawaii."

There is a longer answer, one that is still being worked out. The T-shirts have something to do with it, a product of a modern merchandising in a town redolent of a more spacious age of commerce when, a century ago, tall-masted schooners would have here to trade cloth and iron goods for copra and cocoa.

Today it is only 20 minutes by air to the island of Tutuila and the bright modern shops of Pago Pago (pronounced Pango Pango), the capital of American Samoa.

It's not quite that modern or bright, despite the T-shirts, on Opuhu, where Apia stands, and on Savai'i, the two main islands of Western Samoa, for 19 years politically independent (it was formally administered by New Zealand). But how long this fertile, mountainous country of fewer than 200,000 people can remain independent of what is to some a distasteful commercialism is another question being asked here.

There is still a certain missionary zeal about the western business community here — shrewd businessmen and businesswomen, with names like Nelson, Carruthers, Yandall, Mackenzie, Bentley and Burns Philp. Entrepre-



neurs, they feel, are just waiting for "their" Samoa to become better known before the country's two most famous names are exploited.

One of these is John Williams, the Welsh missionary, who came here in 1830 and whose witness produced such a harvest of Christians and the other is, teller of tales Robert Louis Stevenson, who put Samoa on tourists' as well as traders' itineraries.

"But it will come. It can't be stopped," says a well-known local figure, a man known to all as "Jack Warner", general manager of Armstrong and Springhall, suppliers of business equipment and honorary British representative. I found him compiling a list of the British community who would attend a cocktail party thrown by the British High Commissioner, New Zealand, at the celebrated Aggie Grey's Hotel.

Warner, as a businessman, recognises the lucrative opportunities ahead and is torn between his commercial sense and apprehension about the kind of activity which are to come. He said that the government was thinking of building a cable car to the top of Mount Vaea, where RLS — who died in December, 1894 aged only 45 — is buried in a simple tomb.

The Legislative Assembly also plans to have a restaurant there with a convenient shop. To some this is desecration in the paradise of trees, streams,

waterfalls and beautiful flowers.

The name Vailima, meaning five waters, will always be associated with RLS's famous Vailima Letters. This name has already been appropriated for a local beer (as well as for tonics, soft drinks and T-shirts).

But the crasser commercialism is yet to begin. How long before there are effigies of John Williams, plaster busts of Stevenson, cigarette boxes made in the shape of his home and tombweights in the shape of his tomb?

Some modern buildings are going up in Apia, but many of the old white-painted wooden

buildings with their balconies and verandahs remain. The most expensive and imaginative building, however, will be the new Bahai temple in the hills of Tiapapa.

The temple will cost nearly £2m, take two and a half years to build, will be 85-feet to the top of its dome, seat 500 people and be the mother temple of this faith in the Pacific.

The engineers are Flint and Neill of London, the architect is Eusman Amanat of London and the main contractor Mainzeal of New Zealand.

Samoa has a young population, 60 per cent of its people being under 20. Wages are

pitifully low and there is little incentive for the people — called the Irish of the Pacific because they are so political — to work hard when they can get most of what they need to live from the trees and the sea.

Apelin Aiavao, chief information officer at the office of the prime minister, Tupuola Efi, pointed out one of the difficulties faced by the economy. Because the price of copra fluctuates so widely on the world markets, the natives would sooner sell it locally for ready cash.

Outside the market there is a huge, colourful, wooden chart, listing the targets for copra, cocoa and taro, the Samoan potato, and what they can get for a year and imports took a record 28.5 per cent share. Cuts in output by the big manufacturers now seem likely.

The construction industry is a good industrial barometer and

need. It reaches the absurd when luscious, fresh pineapples are available locally, yet the shops sell canned pineapples because they can't get enough of the fresh ones.

That Samoa can eventually become an important exporter to world markets is suggested by the presence of the Japanese, who are building a big fishing centre here, and who provide about 1 in 10 of the vehicles on the island.

China is represented by an ambassador and, over Hangzhou, the Chinese consul, the strache, told me that though there is no direct trade at present, there are many Chinese goods in the shops brought in by local traders and China is interested in Samoan timber.

Samoa wants chiefly to reduce its trade deficit and it is well known to offer a big plan. "Grants, soft loans and remittances from emigrants have helped to sustain the economy, but the country must export more of its copra, cocoa and taro, develop its manufacturing industries of timber milling, brewing, cigarette manufacture and food processing and increase the berth occupancy for foreign ships from the present 55 per cent."

If it can do this the country will be making a start on the road to economic recovery, and will be able to offer its people by the time the next big occasion in its calendar comes around — the South Pacific Games in 1983.

Geoffrey Watkins

The Times  
**SPECIAL REPORTS**  
put situations and subjects of today into  
**PERSPECTIVE**

**Cakebread Robey & Co. Ltd.**  
Suppliers to the Building Industry  
Mr I. C. Robey reported to the AGM on 13th July, 1981

- ★ DISTRIBUTABLE PROFIT UP 48%
- ★ DIVIDEND UP 13%
- ★ POSITIVE CASH FLOW

Sales for the current year are not buoyant and the outlook is very uncertain. Distributable profit is unlikely to reach 1980 levels.

Copies of accounts may be obtained from:  
**Company Secretary, CAKEBREAD ROBEY & CO. LTD., 318-326 Southbury Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 1TT.**



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets  
BP hopes lift equities

Hopes that BP's £600m rights issue might not prove the disaster first feared, helped the account to open on a firm note yesterday.

Dealers were confident last night that only a small amount of the new shares would be left with the underwriters, but the 30 per cent of the first offering, BP closed 8p higher at 288p, even though the announcement confirming the outcome is unlikely before Thursday.

Nevertheless, the market was in a more confident mood yesterday with a late surge after hours pushing the FT Index up 7.5 to close at 332.1.

Rank Organisation's interim figures proved disappointing with profits slashed from £54m to £36.6m and the shares tumbled 10p to 158p, after 154p, despite the maintained dividend.

Gifts looked to the United States for further inspiration, but with no sign of a further rise in interest rates and Wall Street opening lower, prices fluctuated in narrow limits.

Signs of a further downturn in industrial production, coupled with the gloomy economic outlook, also acted as a deterrent. The picture at the close showed long unchanged with shorts around £1 lower.

Leading industrials featured Thoma EM1, up 22p at 422p, following comment on last Friday's better than expected figures, while BOC International, up 4p higher at 136p, and Turner, 8p higher at 288p, both benefited from favourable week-end comment.

Lec Refrigeration sprang a pleasant surprise in 1980 with a 50 per cent jump in profits and admirers say it did it again last year with a jump from £2.4m to around £3m, a new record. The dividend already enjoys massive cover. This puts the 4.3 per cent yield at 190p into perspective.

Among second liners, special mentions were good for 13p on Oref at 104p, 3p on Amalgamated Power at 109p, 3p on Allied Plant at 29p, 3p on James Beattie at 156p, 10p on Polly Peck at 353p and 25p on Mercantile House at 938p.

Jacksons Exploration made a disappointing debut on the Un-

listed Securities Market, opening at a 10p discount on the offer price of 72p after more than 60 per cent of the shares had been left with the underwriters.

Carole Engineering held steady at 59p, despite the reduced profits and dividend, but Ratners fell 3p to 50p after its fully-year figures. The 13 per cent profit increase left LRC International with a 4p rise at 48p.

Shares of G. M. Firth leapt 8p to 90p after the news that Mr Ian Wasserman, the former Slater Walker man, had picked up 19.2 per cent of the company.

Equity turnover on July 10 was £149.73m (15,367 barges), Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Thoma EM1, GM Firth, Land Secs, Oref, Group, Barter, Amalgamated Power, Sun Life Assurance, Ellis & Goldstein, Ariel Ind, Shell and Transworld Group.

Traded options. Total contracts reached 1,067, with attracting 254 calls and 236 puts.

Traditional options saw falls in Rothmans on 7p and CU on 16p.

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Carole Eng (F)	27.18(32.4)	0.72(1.2)	8.2(18.0)	1.3(2.6)	3/9	2.6(5.2)
Grovesend (I)	6.3(4.3)	0.02(0.1*)	0.02(0.1*)	—	—	—
Greenbank (I)	2.1(2.1)	5.5(6.1)	6.0(6.0)	2/11	—	(2.5)
LRC Int (F)	113.9(113.7)	7.0(7.2)	4.3(3.7)	1.8(1.7)	7/10	2.5(2.5)
Murray Nthn (F)	—	0.86(0.8)	1.85(1.7)	1.25(—)	16/9	1.85(1.7)
Peck (F)	247(251)	1.65(1.5)	1.0(1.2)	4.8(4.8)	6/3	—
Rank Org (I)	24.11(23.3)	2.2(3.4)	6.14(10.5)	1.6(1.6)	2/10	2.3(2.3)
Ratners (F)	24.11(23.3)	2.2(3.4)	6.14(10.5)	1.6(1.6)	2/10	2.3(2.3)
Westn Board (F)	3.5(3.7)	1.38(1.4)	14.7(13.2)	2/10	5/9	5.9(5.3)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Financial News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. \* = loss.

## Briefly

Amos Hinton: Chairman told annual meeting that the improved trend for sales and profits was continuing. Company will be facing some increase in competition in the second half. However, by the end of the year it expects to have at least two stores converted to incorporate some of the board's concepts for the Hinton store of the 1980s.

C. T. Bowring & Co and Marsh & McLennan Companies have sold their 50 per cent share of the wholly owned subsidiary, Bowring Steamship, to Drovebrook, a privately owned United Kingdom company, for £5.5m. Vessels will be managed by Newgate Shipping Company and will continue to operate within the Atlantic Bulk corridor.

Murray Northern Investment Trust: Dividend for year to May 31, 2.64p gross (2.51p net), EPS 1.85p (1.77p). NAV 110.2p (75.1p).

Lazard Bros and Co has signed two loans totalling more than £10m to finance housing contract gained by the Enghien Group consortium to build 2,500 housing units for the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Housing and Environment.

Westrich: The board has agreed to open discussions with C. H. Beazer, the Bath-based builder, to establish whether there is any basis for a merger between the two. Beazer's brokers swept into the market last Friday to pick up 11.5 per cent of Westrich's shares. Beazer said it wished to reach agreed bid terms.

Guthrie Corporation has entered into an agreement with Booker McConnell, subject to final ratification by the Malawi exchange control authorities, for the purchase of Booker's 79.95 per cent shareholding in Bookers (Malawi). Balance of shares will continue to be held by the Malawi Investment Corporation. Consideration for the purchase of the shares is approximately £1m over three years.

Nesco Investments: Turnover for 13 months to March 31, £2.5m (£1.6m for year). Pretax profit £407,000 (£769,000). After investment income and interest EPS 5.6p (8.97p). The accounts were greatly influenced by the inclusion of Colmore Investments, acquired at the beginning of 1981.

## Bank Base Rates

Bank	Rate
ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Crds	12%
C. Hoare & Co	12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

\* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and over 9% over 30,000 10%.

## M. J. H. Nightingale &amp; Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

## The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	P/E	Yield	Actual	Taxed
100	100	100	ABI Hides 10% CULS	100	—	10.0	10.0	—	—	—
76	39	10p	Alpspring Group	68	—	4.7	7.1	10.5	14.5	—
22	21	10p	Armitage & Rhodes	47	—	1.4	3.0	19.3	44.8	—
200	200	200	Bardon Hill	197x	—	9.7	5.1	9.6	11.7	—
104	88	10p	Deborah Services	100	—	5.5	5.5	5.0	9.4	—
126	88	10p	Frank Horsell	100	—	6.4	6.4	3.1	5.7	—
110	39	10p	Frederick Parker	66	—	1.7	4.8	2.8	—	—
110	64	10p	George Blair	64	—	3.1	4.8	—	—	—
113	39	10p	Jackson Group	113	—	7.0	6.7	3.6	8.0	—
130	103	10p	James Burrough	129	—	8.7	6.7	9.4	11.8	—
334	244	10p	Robert Jenkins	314	—	31.3	10.0	—	—	—
59	50	10p	Scruttons 'A'	59	—	5.3	9.0	9.1	8.4	—
224	194	10p	Toray Limited	194	—	15.1	7.8	7.5	12.8	—
23	8	10p	Twinkl Ord	144	—	—	—	—	—	—
90	68	10p	Twinkl 15% ULS	78	—	15.0	19.3	—	—	—
95	35	10p	Unilock Holdings	40	—	3.0	7.5	6.2	9.8	—
103	81	10p	Walter Alexander	100	—	1.7	5.7	5.5	8.8	—
263	161	10p	W. S. Yeates	246	—	13.1	5.3	4.7	9.5	—

## Distilled Products buys rum importer for £3.2m

Amalgamated Distilled Products, the Scottish whisky company, yesterday announced it is buying George Morton, the Montrose-based dark rum importer, for £3.2m.

The offer consists of a cash, share, and convertible loan stock mix. Amalgamated will offer £14.20 per ordinary share and 50p per 3.5 per cent preference share of £1 each of Morton.

Shares in Amalgamated were suspended on July 2 at 85p, pending an announcement. Morton, an unlisted public company, imports, bottles and distributes dark rum under the "OVD" brand name. Morton's directors and other shareholders have irrevocably undertaken to accept the offer in respect of 76 per cent of the issued share capital and 12.122 of the preference shares, representing 32 per cent. The board is recommending the offer.

Amalgamated has requested that its shares continue to be suspended until a further announcement is made.

Last July, Amalgamated, where James Gulliver Associates owns 10 per cent, concluded a merger which brought it expansion in the United States market. It made an arrangement through its United States subsidiary, ADP Liquor, to import with one of America's ten largest distillers, the Medley Distilling Company of Louisville.

## RP Martin deal signed

R P Martin, the money broker, has signed the merger agreement with German money broker Bierbaum reached in principle on April 1. Dealings should begin soon in the shares, suspended since then.

Talks broke off in January, after three months, over the likely role of Bierbaum's original associates in the merger plan, Mr Thomas Whyte, former chairman of Triumph Investment Trust, and Mr Gunter Kreisel, a partner in Mr P. Endres, a partner in

## Commodities

COPPER was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Zinc: 100 tonne, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Lead: 100 tonne, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Tin: 100 tonne, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Nickel: 100 tonne, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Silver: 100 tonne, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Gold: 100 tonne, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

ALUMINIUM was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

IRON was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

STEEL was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

COAL was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

WHEAT was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

BARLEY was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

RYE was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

MAIZE was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

SUGAR was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

COTTON was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

Wool was steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

Other commodities were steady. Afternoon: Cash 100.00, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne. Standard: 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 3 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 6 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 9 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne; 12 months, 287.50-292.50, 100 tonne.

## Peerless slumps to £1.65m

By Our Financial Staff

Peerless, the Birmingham-based plastics and electro-mechanical group, yesterday revealed more than halved profits in the year to March but is still paying the forecast dividend.

A severe drop in demand is blamed for the fall in profits to £1.65m compared with £3.5m. Sales were £2m behind at £29.3m. Nevertheless, shareholders are getting the promised final dividend of 6p, making a total gross for the year of 5p. Peerless said when it went public last May it expected to pay at least 5p for the year.

At the interim stage, Peerless reported pretax profits down at £501,000 against £1.92m and warned of a poor second half. But the severity of the decline in demand surprised the group, Mr William Jordan, the chairman, said.

Demand for products from its electro-mechanical division, accounting in a good year for about half of profits, fell by some 25 per cent over the year. Trading profits were down from £770,000 to £391,000. The plastics division, however, which supplies the food and building industries, increased profits slightly over the previous year.

But, Mr Jordan added, the improvement seen at the very end of the year continued in the first months to give an encouraging outlook for the year.

Interest charges more than doubled to £734,000. Peerless has cut borrowings by £2m to about £1.8m since the year end. Over the year the workforce has been cut by 250 to 1,200. Short-term working continues at one of its metal factories.

## New Court plans £5m rights issue

By Catherine Gunn

Seven months after joining the United Securities Market, New Court Mutual Resources is to raise about £5.1m through a rights issue. The money will be used to add to the company's stock of oil and gas properties in the United States.

Shareholders are being offered one rights unit at 160p for every six shares. The rights units will be made up of four new ordinary shares and a warrant that allows holders to subscribe for one ordinary 5p share at 75p on September 30 in any year between 1983 and 1988. Directors expect to maintain last year's 1.43p gross dividend on the enlarged capital for the year to March 31, 1982.

Last year group profits slipped from £758,000 to £714,000 pretax, after the sale of Exploration and Production Services in December, 1979. At the end of March 1981, the group's proven and probable reserves of oil and gas were attributed a fair market value of £24m (£12.7m at current exchange rates), against a book value of \$10.1m.

The shares dropped 11p to 50p yesterday.

## Discount market

Tight credit conditions prevailed in the market and rates stayed high.

Houses were bidding in the region of 11-11.1 per cent for funds at the outset, but the clearing of the market for four months had the rate falling to 11.2 per cent. Closing balances were mostly taken at about 12 per cent.

## Sterling: Spot and Forward

Market rates	Market rates
New York	1.50-1.52
London	1.50-1.52
Amsterdam	1.50-1.52
Frankfurt	1.50-1.52
Paris	1.50-1.52
Brussels	1.50-1.52
Geneva	1.50-1.52
Basel	1.50-1.52
Zurich	1.50-1.52

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 6.4 at 92.3.

## Indices

Index	Value
FT 100	332.1
FT 250	100.0</











CHOICE

# Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

## TELEVISION

### BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Cardiovascular Control. 7.30 Solar Cells: 7.30 The Evolution of Breeding Systems. Close-down at 7.55.  
1.15 pm News with weather forecast from Jack Scott.  
1.30 Head and Tails. Derek Griffiths tells the tale of Dog-Long (r).  
Close-down at 1.45.  
5.50 Gorseon Gwynfryn. High-lights from a Welsh variety show.  
4.20 Play School. For the under-fives (shown earlier on BBC 2).  
4.45 Help! It's the Hair Bear Bunch. Cartoon adventures of a cool bear (r). 5.05 Newsround. Domestic and world news for young people presented by Paul McDowell. 5.10 Ask Aspel. Mike

Aspel with some more clips from recent BBC television programmes requested by viewers. With him in the studio to answer questions is Linsey Macdonald. 5.35 Ask Aspel. 5.40 News read by Peter Woods. 5.55 National news magazines. 6.55 Medical Express. Hilary Knight and Charles Smith take a look at what medicine has to offer.  
7.25 Film: Hot Enough for June (1983) starring Dirk Bogarde and Sylvia Kristel. A mild comedy thriller in which Bogarde plays an unwitting spy. A failed author, he joins a

company as a trained executive and is sent to Czechoslovakia on business and finds himself in all manner of scrapes. Also starring Robert Morley and Leo McKern.  
9.00 News read by Kenneth Kendall.  
9.25 War on Crime. A documentary which follows the police at work on the streets and the public's response to them. There are also interviews with criminals and victims.  
10.00 News read by Kenneth Kendall.  
10.20 Goodbye Darling. A film by James Milne. The last of a series of films about a woman who is the accountant for a superstar singer. She falls for a local land owner but the singer's agent is determined that she concentrate on the job of managing the singer's finances.

11.10 It's a Dog's Life. Continuing his series on working dogs and their owners Phil Drabble goes behind the scenes at Perry Barr Greyhound Stadium, Birmingham. He also visits a social club in the heart of the Black Country to reminisce about one of the joys of his youth - whippet racing (r).  
11.40 News headlines and weather.  
12.27 Miles of London (r).  
12.55 Weather.  
1.00 The World at One.  
1.40 The Archers.  
2.00 News.  
2.02 Woman's Hour.  
2.05 The Archers.  
2.07 A Dance to the Music of Time by Anthony Powell (r).  
2.10 The Archers.  
2.12 The Archers.  
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3.00 The Archers.

### BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: English Flats of the 1930s. 7.05 The Dragon School. 7.30 History of Mathematics. Close-down at 7.55.  
11.00 Play School. For the under-fives presented by Chloe Ashcroft and Christopher Bramwell. Delia Morgan tells the traditional tale of The Town Mouse and The Country Mouse. Close-down at 11.25.  
4.50 pm Open University: Book Polynomials. 5.15 Socialist Realist Art. 5.40 Semi-Conductors. 6.05 Knotology. 6.30 Rats and Super Rats.  
6.55 Six Fifty-five Special.

Music and chat presented by Donny MacLeod, Peter Tomlinson and Marion Foster. Among the guests are Sir Bernard Miles and the Dutch Marines Swing Band.  
7.30 News including a sub-titled synopsis for the hard-of-hearing.  
7.40 My Music. A lighthearted quiz, dedicated to Entertainer, between two teams, one consisting of Frank Muir and John Amis, the other Denis Norden and Ian Wallace. The question setter and master is Steve Race. 8.05 Talking the Strain. Noel Edmonds examines a machine which measures stress and tries to find a method of relaxation. Penny Yendell uses her relaxation

technique to remove the tension from her face, hands and arms.  
8.30 The Theatre Quiz. Two teams with an acting background compete in a test of theatrical knowledge. Alfred Marks is the questionmaster. The last of the series.  
9.00 Rhythm on Two featuring Stephanie Grappelli. The second part of a concert recorded at the Festival Theatre, Great Malvern.  
9.30 Maybury. Maisie is admitted to the psychiatric wing of the Maybury. Patrick Stewart stars as Dr Redbeck and Noel Edmonds as Dr. Redbeck. 10.20 Mozart: The Last Decade. The Piano Concerto in D minor

performed by John Lill and the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra at the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea. The programme is introduced by M. C. Robbins.  
10.55 Newsnight. The latest news from home and abroad presented by Peter Snow, Stuart Wheeler, John Tusa and Peter Hobbard.  
11.35 The Old Grey Whistle Test. A look at the developments in the contemporary rock scene presented by Anne Nightingale and David Hepworth. Studio guests are The Jam, The Police and The Who. The programme ends at 12.15 am.

### Thames

9.50 am Shuttleworth Vintage Planes. A closer look at the planes both flying and on the ground. 9.40 Bailey's Bird. Adventures of a freelance pilot in South East Asia. 10.10 Roads. An examination of the masons and stonemasons of Ireland. 10.35 The World We Live In: How man's understanding of the sun and the solar system has evolved. 11.00 Little House on the Prairie (r). 11.10 Cartoons. Dick Tracy in Gruesome Twosome. 12.00 Paperplay. Susan Stranks shows her two friends how to make an egg cocoon from felt and glue (r). 12.10 pm Puppets for the very young (r).  
12.30 The Warrington 500. Gus MacDonald and a cross-section of Warrington voters ask politicians their views on the Common Market.

1.00 News read by Peter Sissons. 1.20 Thames News with Tricia Ingrams.  
1.30 The Warrington 500. More talks about the Common Market introduced by Gus MacDonald.  
2.00 Adapting to Fashion. Sewing hints from Betty Foster (r). 2.20 Daily Beauty. Beautician Barbara Day demonstrates a beauty routine for teenagers on Sharon Davies. 2.45 Heartland. First part of a romantic series about an unmarried mother (r). 3.45 Looks Familiar. Dennis Norden with the original

comedians of Variety Bandbox. 4.45 News. 4.55 News. 5.00 News. 5.05 News. 5.10 News. 5.15 News. 5.20 News. 5.25 News. 5.30 News. 5.35 News. 5.40 News. 5.45 News. 5.50 News. 5.55 News. 6.00 News. 6.05 News. 6.10 News. 6.15 News. 6.20 News. 6.25 News. 6.30 News. 6.35 News. 6.40 News. 6.45 News. 6.50 News. 6.55 News. 7.00 News. 7.05 News. 7.10 News. 7.15 News. 7.20 News. 7.25 News. 7.30 News. 7.35 News. 7.40 News. 7.45 News. 7.50 News. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.05 News. 8.10 News. 8.15 News. 8.20 News. 8.25 News. 8.30 News. 8.35 News. 8.40 News. 8.45 News. 8.50 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.05 News. 9.10 News. 9.15 News. 9.20 News. 9.25 News. 9.30 News. 9.35 News. 9.40 News. 9.45 News. 9.50 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.05 News. 10.10 News. 10.15 News. 10.20 News. 10.25 News. 10.30 News. 10.35 News. 10.40 News. 10.45 News. 10.50 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.05 News. 11.10 News. 11.15 News. 11.20 News. 11.25 News. 11.30 News. 11.35 News. 11.40 News. 11.45 News. 11.50 News. 11.55 News. 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# Young unknown chosen to replace Fisher in NUPE

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The National Union of Public Employees has chosen Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, a national officer virtually unknown outside the Labour movement, as its next leader.

The executive appointment which will be announced today means that under NUPE's present practice, Mr Bickerstaffe, who is 36, is set to remain general secretary of the country's fifth biggest union until the year 2005.

He will take over when Mr Alan Fisher, the current general secretary, stands down at the end of next May. He will be propelled into the select circle of top union leaders and will be almost certainly the youngest member of the TUC General Council from September 1982.



Mr Bickerstaffe

Mr Bickerstaffe, a Yorkshireman, has a sociology degree, which also makes him unusual among manual union leaders. He joined the union as an area officer in 1966, straight from Newcastle Polytechnic.

Mr Bickerstaffe is also unusual in never having been a rank and file member of the union. His mother, Pearl, in successive jobs as a matron, nurse and child care officer has been a NUPE member for 40 years.

As the local government officer for the local government, universities and the water industry, he has built up a strong reputation within the union as a tough wage bargainer and seemingly tireless campaigner against public expenditure cuts. Nevertheless, the appointment agreed at the weekend by a majority of the union's 26 member lay executive, will come as a surprise to many senior union officials outside NUPE. A number had expected Mr Ronald Keating, assistant general secretary of the union

and one of the five other candidates, to get the job.

Under the union's constitution the elected executive has hire and fire rights over its general secretary and assuming that the retirement age is not lowered, Mr Bickerstaffe can expect his job to last 23 years.

Mr Fisher, at present chairman of the TUC, is retiring by choice, at 60, though the union's rules theoretically allow the general secretary to remain in office until 65. The union has been campaigning for the retirement age to be lowered for local government workers.

Mr Bickerstaffe will ascend to one of the dozen or so most important jobs in the trade union movement at a time when his union has been at the centre of conflict within the Labour movement, partly because of its uncompromising tough stance during the 1979 "winter of discontent" when public service pay disputes preceded the fall of the Callaghan government.

Since then Mr Fisher became one of the first union leaders publicly to espouse the candidacy of Mr Wedgwood Benn for the deputy leadership of the Labour Party. The union is conducting consultations with branches, representing its 700,000 members.

Many of Mr Bickerstaffe's positions on political issues are not widely known but he is seen within the union as a left-winger much in the mould of the union's leadership. He is understood to be unilateralist, and to favour withdrawal from the EEC.

He is best known within the union, however, for being a passionate campaigner for more public expenditure.

He is married with four children and spearheaded a union campaign against cuts in school meals services. He is a member of the Labour Party.

He said last night that the union's policies were determined not by one man but by its membership.

Of the first years of his coming term of office he said: "I see the return of a Labour government that will be committed to all those things that the unions have been arguing for in terms of an alternative economic strategy. That will mean a massive injection of public support into the services we so badly need and also ensure the growth of our union."

"I hope that the progressive policies of the union will continue to play an important part in the role of the trade union movement."



Mrs Thatcher, intense at her Liverpool press conference yesterday; outside the demo goes on.

## Peaceful Orange marches

The Orange marches, commemorating the victory of King William at the Battle of the Boyne, passed off peacefully in Belfast yesterday with Orange men from Liverpool, Scotland, Manchester and Canada taking part in a colourful procession which took more than three hours to pass through the city centre. Near those places where the route marched past Catholic areas, the Army had erected screens to hide Catholics from a procession they would consider as provocative.

Leading Loyalist politicians spoke at rallies at the end of many of the marches, many praising the Government's stand on the hunger strike while Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Official Unionist Party, compared the street violence in English cities with that in Ulster. He said that Ulster was no longer the problem province adding: "Far away friends are saying 'these Ulster folk have been fighting our battle all along'."

Four soldiers were slightly injured when shots were fired at an Army patrol in the Suffolk area of West Belfast.

## Maxwell puts receiver in 'Radio Times' printers

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

Mr Robert Maxwell, chief executive of the British Printing Corporation, announced last night he had appointed a receiver for the company's Park Royal works after members of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades rejected his terms for keeping it open.

About 160 members of the SOGAT chapter rejected a proposal for the temporary transfer of about 750,000 copies of the Radio Times out of a total print of 3,500,000 from the London plant to East Kilbride, in Scotland.

Mr Maxwell had delayed the appointment of a receiver, Mr Norman Barrington Cork, to allow a meeting of the union's chapter to be held. But despite an appeal by Mr William Miles, national officer of the union, members voted against the plan.

In a statement last night Mr Maxwell said he believed that the "chapter members would meet again today and decide 'I hope that even at this late stage once they realise the enormity of what they have done they will do right by themselves and their fellow trade unionists'."

## Faint hope in Whitehall pay dispute

By Our Labour Editor

Civil service union leaders last night decided to hold off from the most critical escalation of their pay dispute in the faint hope that tentative government peace-feelers will yield new negotiations.

Informal contacts between the Council of Civil Service Unions and the Civil Service Department suggest that there may be room for another round of talks designed to improve the Cabinet's "final" offer of seven per cent salary increases for 1981.

The CCSU major policy committee met for two and a half hours last night and adjourned until this afternoon in the hope of receiving more firm indications of government intentions.

The yulet last night's private talks in Victoria, London, refusing to make any comment or give any guidance for the first time in the five-month dispute. The committee will reconvene after lunch today. If the signs are optimistic they are expected to freeze industrial action at its present level. This would stop the crucial extension of strikes in unemployment benefit offices in areas where rioting has taken place.

## Party will to change challenged by Poles

From Dossa Trevisan, Warsaw, July 13

A group of prominent intellectuals has voiced serious doubts about the leadership's willingness to reform the Polish Communist Party, which starts its congress here tomorrow.

The intellectuals, representing a variety of reformist opinion and grouped under the name Experience and Future, issued a report which says that there will be catastrophic consequences unless the party is drastically reformed.

The report, which was issued on July 10 and runs to 18 pages, questions the ability of the party to provide solutions to the problems caused by Poland's social upheavals which it says require a national policy to unite the unions, Church and party.

It paints a gloomy picture and makes a still gloomier forecast of what will happen if the congress fails to live up to the expectations of the rank and file who favour radical reform and the party loses credibility and becomes alienated from the people.

The report claims that since the Central Committee meeting last month hardliners in the party had strengthened their position through their attempt to change the moderate leadership.

According to the group, which is believed to consist of 200 intellectuals, including party members, the centre represents only a small part of the party ready to accept reform but that its principal protagonists, clearly meaning

Mr Kania, the party secretary, are paralyzed by "fear of losing power and provoking developments that could not be controlled."

The report claims that the conservatives at the congress can count on 15 per cent of the delegates and that their interests lie in preserving the present state of affairs although they are ready to go on with limited economic reforms and ready to align themselves with the centre.

There are, the report says, five major trends in the party, ranging from radical reformists to radical conservatives. But the majority would align themselves with the moderate centre which makes the situation fluid.

North Sea exercises: Two groups of Warsaw Pact naval vessels have sailed out of the Baltic and are conducting large exercises in the North Sea between Shetland and the Norwegian coast.

The exercises - are being shadowed by West German naval aircraft. NATO believes the purpose of the manoeuvres is to display Warsaw Pact naval power in what NATO considers its backyard.

The first naval force involved in the exercises consisted of units from East Germany, Poland and the Soviet Union, and has four warships together with supporting vessels. The second group is made up of Soviet vessels and includes a "Whiskey" class submarine.

Downward spiral, page 6

## Black man taken ill dies in police custody

By Martin Huckerby

A black electrician, who went berserk at his East London home yesterday and had to be restrained by 11 police officers, died shortly afterwards in the police van which was taking him to a mental hospital.

Scotland Yard said last night that a post-mortem examination, showed that the man, Mr Winston Rose, had died of asphyxiation. "He choked in his own vomit."

The case, which is already giving rise to fears that the death of a young black in the hands of the police could provide a new cause for street violence between blacks and the police, began with a call to the police yesterday lunchtime from a social worker and a doctor seeking help to restrain Mr Rose at his home in Elm Road, Leyton, where he lived with his wife and two young children.

The police said that Mr Rose, aged 25, whom they described as six feet six inches tall and weighing 181 stone, had been acting in a violent manner.

He had locked himself in a garden shed and officers had tried to talk him out. Then, said Scotland Yard, he had burst out and started flailing at the police and other people. Eleven police officers had been involved in restraining him, and nine were slightly injured. Truncheons were not used, the Yard said.

The police said that Mr Rose suffered from mental disorders and had previously been a voluntary patient in a mental hospital.

Mr Paul Boateng, chairman of the Greater London Council, has demanded an inquiry.

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh give a garden party at Buckingham Palace, 4.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits gardens in Hammer-smith, arrives 88 Westway, 4.40.

The Duke of Kent, as Grand Master, attends the Annual service of the Order of St Paul's Cathedral, 11.40.

Princess Alexandra, Chancellor, presides at congregations for the confirmation degrees at the University of Lancaster, 11.15.

Court of Aldermen meets at Guildhall, 12.45. Public welcome.

### Lunchtime music

Free Basille Day concert, St. Bride's Church, Fleet Street, 1.05. Carolle McKinnon (soprano), Lesley Plummer (piano), organ, music by Purcell, Elgar, Bach and Faure. St Martin-in-the-Fields, 1.05.

Podium, outside Museum of London, London Wall, 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m.

Flower show, Carnation, hardy flower and other vegetable competitions, Royal Horticultural Society's Hall, Vincent Square, SW1, 11.30-6.

Exhibitions, Royal wedding dresses, 1815-1950, Museum of London, London Wall, 10-6.

Richard Walker, paintings and drawings, Alpine Gallery, 74 South Audley Street, 10-5.

Poetry, Christopher Cazenove reads poems of Alfred Lord Tennyson, Mervyn Lascelles, Puddle Dock, E.C.4, 1.05.

Talks and lectures, Talk by Bernard Miles, St. Olave, Hart Street, 1.05 p.m. The remembrance of London's liberties, by Eastcheap, 1.05. A Chinese painting of the Ming dynasty (11.30 a.m.), Chinese landscape painting, 1.15 p.m., Margaret Somerville, British Museum.

Band concerts, St James's Park and Regent's Park, 12.30 and 5.30 p.m.

Memorial services, Dame Margery Corbett Ashby, Westminster Abbey, 6.15; Sir Ronald Holmes, St Paul's, Covent Garden, 7.30.

Walks, The mysterious interiors of hidden London, meet Holborn underground, 10.30 a.m. Dickens super tour, meet Russell Square underground, 2 p.m. City through the ages meet Bank underground, 7 p.m.

Auctions, Bonhams, Montpelier Street: Silver and plate, 11. Christie's, South Kensington: Wines for everyday drinking, 11. Fine costumes and textiles, 1.1. Fine shire portraits, paintings, etc. 2. Old and modern jewelry, 2. Christie's, King Street: East, foreign and ancient coins, orders, campaign and commemorative medals, 10.30. Phillips, Blenheim Palace: Fine furniture, 11. Fine works of art, 11. Antique and modern jewelry, 1.30. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Fine Chinese ceramics, 11. Antiquities, 11. Unillustrated miniatures and single leaves from manuscripts, 11.

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### Parliament

Commons (2.30): Finance Bill, report stage, first day. Lords (2.30): Education (Scotland) Bill, committee stage, first day.

### The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia \$	1.55	1.55
Austria Sch	33.90	31.90
Belgium Fr	81.00	77.00
Canada \$	2.24	2.25
Denmark Kr	16.85	16.85
Finland Mkk	8.85	8.44
France Fr	11.30	10.80
Germany DM	4.75	4.51
Italy Lira	117.25	117.25
Japan Yen	111.10	10.50
Ireland Pst	1.30	1.24
Italy Lira	2330.00	2230.00
Netherlands Gld	5.29	5.05
Norway Kr	11.94	11.34
Portugal Esc	124.50	118.50
South Africa R	1.52	1.78
Spain Ptas	186.50	177.50
Sweden Kr	10.15	9.65
Switzerland Fr	4.07	3.45
USA \$	1.55	1.58
Yugoslavia Dnr	73.00	68.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only. Bank supplied yesterday by Reuters. Bank rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

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